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# **Near East/South Asia Report**

No. 2699



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27 January 1983

## NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

No. 2699

## CONTENTS

## ARAB AFRICA

## LIBYA

- Reasons for Shortfall in Industrial Production Cited  
(AL-MUNTIJUN, 4 Dec 82)..... 1

## TUNISIA

- Tunis Radio on Measures To Contain Price Rises  
(Hadi Ghali; Tunis Domestic Service, 14 Jan 83)..... 4
- Mahmoud Messaadi Receives GDR Delegation  
(L'ACTION, 8 Jan 83)..... 6

## ARAB EAST/ISRAEL

## IRAQ

- Briefs  
Plan To Replace Foreign Labor 8

## ISRAEL

- Public Works Said Idle in West Bank Towns  
(Sami al-Aboudi; JORDAN TIMES, 23-24 Dec 82)..... 9

## KUWAIT

- 'AL-HAWADITH' Interviews Kuwaiti Foreign Minister  
(Shaykh Sabah Al-Ahmad Interview; AL-HAWADITH,  
21 Jan 83)..... 11

Daily Comments on Recognition Issue (Ahmad Al-Jarallah; ARAB TIMES, 17 Jan 83).....	13
Lebanese Paper Interviews Kuwaiti Prime Minister (KUNA, 8 Jan 83).....	14
Paper Calls for Iraq, Yemen Joining GCC (Editorial; AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, 8 Jan 83).....	17
Low Oil Production To Cause Budget Deficit (AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM, 17 Jan 83).....	18
Decision Not To Purchase Gulf Oil Refineries Discussed (ARAB OIL, Dec 82).....	19
UASC Achievements Discussed (ARAB OIL, Dec 82).....	22
Industrial Sector Boosted (ARAB OIL, Dec 82).....	24
Bank Growth Slows, Decrease in Credit Extension Noted (ARAB OIL, Dec 82).....	25
Investments Abroad Said To Reach \$52.2 Billion (ARAB OIL, Dec 82).....	26
Bubiyah Island Said To Be Used as Military Base (ARAB OIL, Dec 82).....	27
Briefs	
Loan to Swiss Company	30
Government to Supervise Agriculture	30
Income Diversification	30
Population Statistics	31
Protocol With Finland	31
LEBANON	
'AFP' Reports on Conditions in Ansar Camp (Selim Yassine; AFP, 11 Jan 83).....	32
Briefs	
Bulgaria To Purchase Citrus Products	34
Restrictions for Aliens Entry	34
Al-Khatib Reported in Tripoli	34
OMAN	
Sultan Issues Decrees on Budget, Citizenship (Muscat Domestic Service, 12 Jan 83).....	35



## PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

- PLO Office in Bangkok Sought  
(BANGKOK POST, 22 Dec 82)..... 36

## SAUDI ARABIA

- King Asks Citizens To Stop Holding Ceremonies for Him  
(Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; Riyadh Domestic Television  
Service, 17 Jan 83)..... 37

## YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

- Briefs  
Budget Issue 38

## SOUTH ASIA

### AFGHANISTAN

- Defectors Elaborate on Secrets of Soviet Coup Operations  
(Vladimir Kuzichkin, Sidiqi Miraki; NEUE ZUERCHER  
ZEITUNG, 30 Dec 82)..... 39
- Minister Outlines Plans for Land, Water Reforms  
( 'Abdul Ghaffar Lakanwal Interview; KABUL NEW TIMES,  
25 Dec 82)..... 43
- Minister Says Foreign Policy Serves People's Interests  
(Shah Mohammad Dost; KABUL NEW TIMES, 21, 22 Dec 82)..... 48
- Death of Soviet Moslem Notable Lamented  
(KABUL NEW TIMES, 25 Dec 82)..... 52
- Government Reaffirms 'Freedom of Islam' Policy  
(Nawlawi 'Abdul Wali Hojat Interview; KABUL NEW TIMES,  
28 Dec 82)..... 53

### IRAN

- Undersecretary Comments on Border Issue, POW Exchange  
( 'Abbas Akhundi Interview; ETTELA'AT, 5 Jan 83)..... 56
- 'IRNA' Commentator on Egypt-Arab Rapprochement  
(IRNA, 14 Jan 83)..... 59
- Islamic Newspaper in Egypt Attacked  
(Tehran International Service, 17 Jan 83)..... 61

Khomeyni Receives Delegates of 'Religious Minorities'	
(ALIK, 20 Nov 82).....	62
Irano-Chinese Trade Increases to 500 Million	
(TEHRAN TIMES, 5 Jan 83).....	65
Irano-Romania, Irano-India Talks on Bilateral Issues	
(TEHRAN TIMES, 8 Jan 83).....	66
Plan for Development of Fisheries Industry Underway	
(TEHRAN TIMES, 8 Jan 83).....	67
Communists 'Admit Crimes' Against Innocent in Amol	
(TEHRAN TIMES, 10 Jan 83).....	68
Moslem Women of Iran 'Rose To Smash Pro-U.S. Regime'	
(TEHRAN TIMES, 10 Jan 83).....	69
Briefs	
Uranium Explorations Underway	70
Agricultural Livestock Breeding Ties	70
Meeting With Industries Minister	70
War Martyrs Commemoration	71
Tariq Aziz Visit Condemned	71

#### PAKISTAN

Prospects for Economy in 1983 Discussed	
(THE MUSLIM, 2 Jan 83).....	72
Former Governor Demands Political Solution	
(DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	75
Wali Khan Calls for Frank, Open Assessment of Nation's Situation	
(DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	76
Pakistan Paper Discusses Nonaligned Status	
(Editorial; DAWN, 10 Jan 83).....	78
'Severe' Energy Shortage Aggravated by Drought	
(Michel Martin-Roland; AFP, 16 Jan 83).....	80
Impact of Remittances: 'Dubai Culture' Syndrome Discussed	
(Kay Emm; THE MUSLIM, 2 Jan 83).....	82
Yaqub Khan Discusses Visits to Oman, Bahrain	
(Karachi Domestic Service, 13 Jan 83).....	84
Handling of Remittances Through Official Channels Lauded	
(Jawaid Bokhari; THE MUSLIM, 3 Jan 83).....	85

Increase in 1982 Remittances Reported (DAWN, 7 Jan 83).....	86
Zia's Interview With 'ASAHI' Reported (DAWN, 12 Jan 83).....	87
Pagara Faction Seen as Serious in Power Sharing (THE MUSLIM, 3 Jan 83).....	89
United Kingdom-Pakistan Chamber Team Meets Zia (DAWN, 1 Jan 83).....	90
Private Sector Urged To Modernize Agriculture (DAWN, 1 Jan 83).....	91
Credit Expansion of 9 Billion Rupees Envisioned (DAWN, 10 Jan 83).....	92
Long-Term Perceptions Urged in Relations With United States (VIEWPOINT, 23 Dec 82).....	93
Debate on Foreign Loans Voices Repudiation Demand (VIEWPOINT, 23 Dec 82).....	96
NWFP Governor Discredits Communists, Leftists (VIEWPOINT, 23 Dec 82).....	98
Day of Infamy Recalled (VIEWPOINT, 30 Dec 82).....	99
'Tolerable Limit' Urged in Increasing Prices (DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	101
Khawaja Safdar Stresses Positive Approach for Holding Elections (DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	102
Joint Ventures Offered by Kuwait Traders (DAWN, 12 Jan 83).....	103
Rupee Delinking Blamed for Price Increase, Fall in Exports (DAWN, 12 Jan 83).....	104
Plea To Maintain Export Goods Quality (DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	105
Immediate Opening of Khokhrapar Route Urged (DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	106
National Syndicate Discusses Nutrition Problems (Hasan Akhtar; DAWN, 10 Jan 83).....	107

Independent Planning Body Set Up (DAWN, 10 Jan 83).....	108
Pilot Project for Arid Land Development Launched (DAWN, 10 Jan 83).....	109
National Talent Pool Data Compiled (DAWN, 10 Jan 83).....	110
Signature Drive Planned To Demand Opening of Khokhrapar Route to India (DAWN, 10 Jan 83).....	111
Commentary Discusses Sugar Problems, Normalization With India (M. A. Mansuri; DAWN, 10 Jan 83).....	112
Gas, Petroleum Commercial Prices Increased (DAWN, 10 Jan 83).....	113
Gas Shortage Said To Hit Industrial Output (DAWN, 12 Jan 83).....	115
Withdrawal of Petrol Price Increase Urged (DAWN, 12 Jan 83).....	116
New Petrol Prices Enforced; Reactions Reported (DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	117
Gas Supply in Karachi Said Worsening (DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	118
Landikotal Bazar Still Reported Closed (DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	119
Big Amounts on Industrial Units To Be Spent in Multan (DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	120
Student Elections, Jamiat's Losses Analyzed (Mahmood Zaman; VIEWPOINT, 30 Dec 82).....	121
Withdrawing Subsidies Opposed (VIEWPOINT, 23 Dec 82).....	124
Economic Feasibility of Bio-Gas Discussed (H. A. Hamied; DAWN, 1 Jan 83).....	126
Providing Natural Gas to Baluchistan Praised (DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	128

Needs of Small Farmers in the Context of 6th Plan Discussed (Sultan Ahmed; DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	130
Surplus Sugar To Be Reported (Mohammad Aslam; DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	132
Pakistani Eye Specialists Team Visiting Nepal (DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	133
Jute Cultivation in Sind To Be Tried Again (Habibullah Quadri; DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	134
Development Loan for Sind Livestock Project (DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	136
Integrated Livestock Project To Be Set Up in Sind (DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	138
Lawyers Demand Restoration of 1973 Constitution (DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	139
Chashma Canal Project To Be Delayed (DAWN, 23 Dec 82).....	140
NWFP Considering Institute To Promote Islam (DAWN, 1 Jan 83).....	141
Accounts of Pharmaceutical Firms To Be Checked (DAWN, 1 Jan 83).....	142
Plea To Capture Foreign Fruit and Vegetable Market (DAWN, 1 Jan 83).....	143
Progress of Sui Gas Described (Shafique A. Qureshi; DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	144
Zia Inaugurates Quetta Gas Pipeline Project (DAWN, 7 Jan 83).....	150
Canadian Help in Saindak Copper Assured (DAWN, 7 Jan 83).....	151
Increase in Railway Fares Opposed (DAWN, 7 Jan 83).....	152
Network of Small Industries Planned (DAWN, 7 Jan 83).....	153
National Literacy Plan Being Formulated (DAWN, 7 Jan 83).....	154

Ushr vs. Land Revenue Clarified (DAWN, 12 Jan 83).....	155
Cabinet Approves Ushr Procedures (DAWN, 10 Jan 83).....	156
Observance of Press Freedom Day Planned (THE MUSLIM, 3 Jan 83).....	158
Multan Newsmen's Protest Reported (VIEWPOINT, 23 Dec 82).....	159
Minister Says Baluchistan To Be Developed Fast (DAWN, 7 Jan 83).....	160
Development Efforts in Baluchistan Surveyed (S. R. Poonegar; DAWN, 6 Jan 83).....	161
Technical Education To Be Expanded in Sind (Ghaus Shah; DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	163
Sind Body To Be Set Up for Unemployment Problem (DAWN, 23 Dec 82).....	164
Institution for Elimination of Beggary Started (THE MUSLIM, 3 Jan 83).....	165
Entrepreneurs Reluctant To Take Over Nationalized Units (Saeed Qureshi; THE MUSLIM, 3 Jan 83).....	166
Institute of Languages Planned in Karachi (DAWN, 11 Jan 83).....	168
Briefs	
Nigerian President Visits	169
U.S. Aircraft Arrive	169
UN Military Observers	169
Afghanistan Dialogue	169
Afghan Guerrillas Execute Officers	169
Students' Release Demanded	170
Acting Governor of Sind	170
Situation in Landikotal Normal	170
Students' Release Demanded	170
Resentment of Refugees Voiced	170
Town Name To Stay	170
Advocate, Two Others Held	171
Magazines Banned	171
New Additional Information Secretary	171
Concern Over Oil Prices	171
Plea for Roundtable Conference	171

TI Leader's Membership Restored	172
Steel Melting Plants Closing	172
PPP Worker, Wife Freed	172
IBRD Financing Refugee Projects	172
Z.A. Bhutto's Anniversary	173
Two Convicted for Objectionable Posters	173
Elections 'No Answer'	173
Ambassador to Cairo	173
Minimum Salary Being Considered	174
Independent Planning Body Criticized	174

## REASONS FOR SHORTFALL IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION CITED

Tripoli AL-MUNTIJUN in Arabic 4 Dec 82 pp 1, 12

[Article: "Causes of Shortfall in Targeted Goals of Some Production Cited; It Is Responsibility of Every Citizen to Exert Concerted Efforts to Succeed in Attaining Goals"]

[Text] A preliminary study to determine the causes of the failure of some production establishments to achieve their set targets in the first 9 months of this year has attributed these causes to technical and objective factors which are not difficult to overcome if the efforts of all those concerned are united to solve them.

The phrase "those concerned" can be summed up here in a single word: The citizen who controls the decision-making power in his basic people's congresses and the vocational production congresses. The responsibility of implementing the decision with the required speed falls on the shoulders of the General People's Committee, the specialized general committees and the municipal committees.

This general justification does not absolve the direct producer [worker] of his responsibility at the production site, considering that this producer can devote greater attention to solving his industrial problems by bolstering his presence as a citizen in his basic people's congress and by contributing to the adoption of the right decision.

To bring the picture closer to the minds, it can be pointed out that the preliminary study on the obstacles proves that the elements of these obstacles are divided at the level of supplying the raw material based on the results of the agricultural effort. As for the energy moving the factory, (the efforts should be concentrated on the need not to allow) the sudden electric power outages in some of the major cities where the production sites are currently concentrated. If it is desired to spread and expand the construction of plants throughout the country, then the sudden power outages in the cities do not encourage the existing inclination to spread and expand toward the interior, even though we have succeeded in the past 10 years in expanding the electric power network in a manner compatible with the international concept of adopting electricity as a standard yardstick for measuring the degree of civilizational and cultural progress generally.



As for the human element, especially in the industries where women can be the main producer, a factory cannot stop, its production cannot drop and it must not fail to achieve its targets because the producing force consisting of women is disinclined to work in a plant such as a tuna plant. The woman then gets upset if she cannot find the favorite dish for her children's breakfast and her husband or brother hastens to protest the presence of foreign manpower at the plant and approves quickly a decision to curtail this manpower without contributing to finding the alternative or encouraging masked unemployment to turn into an effective production force.

To point out these obstacles more precisely, we find, for example, that the Zanzur tuna plant, which is controlled by the Libyan Maritime Fishing Company, has achieved only 43 percent of its targets. The causes of this shortfall are:

The plant's equipment is consumed.

The unavailability of the raw material, especially tuna, due to the delay in supplying credit.

The lack of spare parts.

The instability of the labor force, especially women.

Another example is found in some plants of al-Ma'murah Foodstuffs Company where we find the following causes [for the shortfall]:

The production of the juiceline started in July 1982 (i.e. it started late).

The production of olives and pickles depends on the surplus of these agricultural crops which did not meet the targeted processing needs in either quantitative or qualitative terms. This applies to al-Jafarah plant.

As for al-Mansurah plant, which is controlled by the same company, it has faced the following:

The plant's production depends on the surplus olive and pepper crop which did not meet the plant's needs. This made the plant pickle carrots, turnips and cauliflower as an alternative.

The Dirj plant has faced the following:

The plant's production depends on local dates which were not supplied in adequate volume to achieve the plant's targets.

The 'Ayn Zarah Lock Factory has faced:

A shortage of spare parts, most of which have been imported.

The lack of printed plates, imported recently.

Frequent power outages.

As for the Public Flour Mills and Fodders Company, the Tobruk flour mill has faced the following:

The electrical and technical breakdowns in July amounted to 124 hours. The mill also experienced technical and mechanical breakdowns and electric power outages in September.

Al-Marj flour mill, controlled by the same company, has faced the following:

The plant has not achieved its target because of breakdowns totaling 2,888 hours in the period from January to September, including 2,158 hours due to the installation of the new semolina line and 336 idle hours because of the pileup of production.

The Sabha flour mill has faced the following:

The total number of idle hours at the mill in the period from January to September amounted to 1,499 hours, of which 193 hours were due to power outages, 295 hours due to the lack of labor, 276 hours due to the pileup of production and 734 idle hours due to technical and mechanical breakdowns.

These are some of the causes for the failure of a number of production sites to achieve the targeted production figures. We previously published the accomplished figures. In an editorial in a previous edition, we said that it is impossible to understand the achieved figures except in light of the targeted figures and of determining the causes of the shortfall. We also said that all the efforts must unite to overcome the causes because, as free masses building their own future and exercising their power and over whom nobody has power, every citizen is responsible for the shortfall, is required to overcome this shortfall and must perform his role in this respect.

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CSO: 4504/108

TUNIS RADIO ON MEASURES TO CONTAIN PRICE RISES

LD141854 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Jan 83

["Talk of the Day" By Hadi Ghali]

[Text] The overwhelming majority of the various social factions have expressed approval for the government measures to tighten control over prices, over all types of speculation, monopolistic acts, crimes against lawful profit making, over all acts of deception and treachery, so as to insure the running of all economic machinery in accordance with the guidelines laid down for the attainment of our development objectives in the 5-year development plan.

When we say that the overwhelming majority of social factions have expressed approval and pleasure at the measures taken by the government to bolster the purchasing power of all the various workers, we mean that there is a minority who make it their business always to criticize and slander just for the sake of criticizing and slandering. These people have tried to cast doubts about the usefulness of the efforts exerted by the economic control authorities to check monopolists and exploiters and punish those who have violated the laws on legitimate profit-making and who have tried to amass wealth at the expense of the other social factions which work and toil to develop the national wealth and insure its distribution as equitably as possible among all those who have contributed to them.

We wish to seize this occasion to reaffirm that all the measures taken by the government for fixing prices and insuring that they remain within reasonable limits are not circumstantial measures nor an isolated operation intended to appease the popular masses. They are part of an economic and social strategy that was put into force as of last year at the time of the preparation of the 6th national development plan to deal with inflation and meet the dictates of regional and national integral development.

The best proof of this can be found in the fact that the control operations did not center on one particular commodity of food production. They covered the various sectors of food and industrial produce as well as the services sector.

Many of the producers of foodstuff and other production sectors such as the manufacturers of clothes, shoes, leatherwork, supplies and building material have complied voluntarily with these measures in response to the government's call on them to take into consideration the special conditions through which the national economy was passing and in compliance with the dictates of legitimate profit-making specified by law.

This means that the various industries which responded to the government's policy of squeezing their prices to bolster the purchasing power of the various consumers have done so voluntarily, thereby responding to the call to help shoulder the tasks of development. They have voluntarily agreed to cut down their profits and create job opportunities and means of subsistence for those in need.

Likewise, the workers have a role to play; it lies in increasing production and improving productivity, on the ground that production and productivity constitute the basic factor on which we rely in our efforts to overcome inflation and face up to the negative external pressures and win the battle for progress relying in all this on our own capabilities, first and foremost.

CSO: 4500/60

MAHMOUD MESSAADI RECEIVES GDR DELEGATION

PM181455 Tunis L'ACTION in French 8 Jan 83 p 6

[Unattributed Report: "Mahmoud Messaadi Receives a GDR National Front Delegation"]

[Text] "Under President Bourguiba's leadership Tunisia is more strongly attached to world peace than ever," the president of the Chamber of Deputies stated.

Mr Mahmoud Messaadi, president of the Chamber of Deputies, had a meeting on Wednesday afternoon with the East German National Front (coalition of governing parties in the GDR) delegation headed by Mr Horst Schuetze, member of that front's Presidium and deputy chairman of the SED Central Committee [title as published].

On that occasion Mr Mahmoud Messaadi reaffirmed the attachment of Tunisia, under President Bourguiba's leadership, to world peace and its constant concern to work in the international bodies to achieve that objective.

In that connection the president of the Chamber of Deputies expressed regret that hotbeds of tension and conflict exist at present in the world and especially in the Middle East, the Arab Gulf and Afghanistan. He also regretted that appeals for peace and disarmament have become mere slogans, pointing out that the technological and scientific progress achieved in the world has been achieved at the expense of peace and security, because the peoples are now indulging in an arms race by manufacturing increasingly sophisticated weapons.

Referring to Tunisia's stances on this subject and its efforts to attain that objective, the president of the Chamber of Deputies welcomed the similarities which exist between the Tunisian and East German policies on this subject and he expressed the hope that the East German delegation's visit will help strengthen relations between the two countries and between the Tunisian and East German parliaments.

Mr Horst Schuetze, for his part, expressed the GDR's solidarity with the Arab world and especially with the Palestinian people. He paid tribute to Tunisia for agreeing to accept the Palestinian fighters following the Lebanese tragedy.

He also referred to the serious problems which are shaking the world and highlighted the efforts made by the GDR and Tunisia to help solve those problems and establish an atmosphere of understanding and friendship among peoples.

It will be remembered that the GDR national front delegation had a meeting on Tuesday 4 January with Mr Rachid Sfar, public health minister and party treasurer, and had a working meeting with Mr Zakaria Ben Mustapha, mayor of the capital.

In addition the delegation members discussed the strengthening of bilateral cooperation and the consolidation of the ties of friendship between the Destourian Socialist Party and the GDR front with Mr Sadok Fayala, chief of foreign relations in the party directorate.

During this visit the East German delegation will have further contacts with party and government officials.

CSO: 4500/60

## BRIEFS

PLAN TO REPLACE FOREIGN LABOR--Kuwait, 14 Jan (QNA)--Bakr Mahmud Rasul, Iraqi labor and social affairs minister, who is currently visiting Kuwait, has affirmed that there is a total conviction of replacing foreign labor in the Arab countries with Arab labor. In a statement to today's issue of the Kuwaiti weekly newspaper AL-HADAF, the Iraqi minister said this step will strengthen the Arab labor position because reliance on national labor is the basis of industrial and social development in the Gulf countries in particular and the Arab homeland in general. The Iraqi minister called for providing the requirements and complete labor opportunities for the local national labor and for training and preparing it to face life and to mainly depend on it and then to depend on Arab labor in the Arab homeland to execute the desired projects and plans. On Kuwaiti-Iraqi relations, Bakr Mahmud Rasul said relations between the two countries are excellent in various fields. [Excerpt] [GF141148 Doha QNA in Arabic 0757 GMT 14 Jan 83]

CSO: 4400/159

## PUBLIC WORKS SAID IDLE IN WEST BANK TOWNS

Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23-24 Dec 82 p 5

[Article by Sami al-Aboudi]

[Text]

WEST BANK — During the nine months they have been "in office," the military-appointed mayors of al-Bireh and Ramallah have not introduced any new development project, charge deposed city council members from the twin cities. "They have even frozen some of the projects we had been working on, such as the extension of al-Bireh's sewage system," said Ibrahim Tawil of al-Bireh, the first elected mayor to be summarily dismissed by the Israeli authorities last March.

The sewage system is only one of several basic improvement and development projects initiated by the elected municipalities before their sacking by the Israelis last spring. Some projects were halted completely, others were cut back and partial work is underway on a third type. The appointed mayors were reported to have even sold some of the equipment owned by the municipalities.

When Ibrahim Tawil was forced out of office, municipal workers were halfway through the first stage of constructing the sewage system. Tawil said that this stage included laying sewage pipes in all neighbourhoods in the south side of the city. Completion had been scheduled for July and work was proceeding on time until March. City engineers were drawing up plans for the second stage at the same time and blue-print work for

the northern (industrial) area was also completed. The work is now five months behind schedule and the Israeli-appointed military mayor is still working on the first stage.

A cursory look along the Jerusalem-Ramallah road as it approaches the southern city limits of al-Bireh shows municipal workers busy digging up the street, preparing to install sewage pipes. The appearance is that the municipality is active and concerned, as a recent Israel TV feature tried to convince viewers. However, on side streets along both sides of the main road, things are different. Streets are open culverts and sewage pipes lay on the roadsides, but nobody is working nor has been for months.

The al-Bireh municipality completed the basic structure of a 5000-metre square school in 1981, at a cost of over JD 250,000, using donations collected from the al-Bireh diaspora communities in the U.S. and from Arab countries. The building was designed as a college branch for one of the West Bank universities and local educators say that the building is suitable only for that purpose. But the Israeli military mayor has announced plans to convert the college building into new quarters for the al-Hashimiyeh secondary school. In 1978, the school was operating at full capacity with an enrollment of 450 students.



However, following huge student demonstrations in March 1978 to protest the Israeli invasion of South Lebanon, the Israeli military authorities issued an order banning students from villages from studying in city schools. Village students scattered to neighbouring schools which had secondary classes, and the previously crowded al-Hashimiyeh school enrollment consequently dropped to nearly 200 students.

Students at the active al-Hashimiyeh school in the heart of al-Bireh claim that the Israelis purposely want to exile them to a remote area to lower the visibility, and influence, of student demonstrations on the public. The new school building is far from the urban centre, and has no public transport near it. Al-Bireh educators also charge that it would be a waste of space, design and resources if it were used as a secondary school.

The landmark roundabout known to every resident as simply al-Manara no longer stands in its place on the Ramallah-al-Bireh dividing line. Originally a water fountain monument, the circle was famous for the three, stone-carved lions which guarded the middle of a small pool. Water flowed from the pool through the lions' trunks and sprayed from the mouths of the lions. In 1966, a freak tornado

destroyed the statues, and they were replaced by a simple stone column.

In recent years, the elected Ramallah and al-Bireh municipalities were jointly planning to renovate al-Manara and install the area's first traffic lights in order to organise the six streams of converging traffic. The blueprint however, stayed in the closet after the Israeli authorities refused to approve the project.

Less than two months ago, the Israeli-appointed mayors gave orders to destroy the major circle and to build small islands instead. Many Ramallah and al-Bireh residents insist that renovation work could have been carried out without destroying the famous landmark, which had been preserved in the plans drawn up by the elected municipalities. The 'new' Israeli mayor is using Israeli-made prefabricated cement blocks to replace the old and beautiful hand-cut stone blocks lining the side walks, thus pouring money into Israeli factories, while denying it to local Palestinian stone-cutters.

Among other major projects, frozen by the Israeli authorities during the term of the elected municipalities, was al-Bireh's new town hall. Tawil explained that because of budget approval delays

by the military governorate, sometimes lasting months, the municipality feels compelled, says Mayor Tawil, to start needed projects without the Israeli authorities approval.

In the case of the municipal building, the city council had prepared all the necessary blueprint work, and had the budget in hand for the project. Eight months after the municipality submitted its plans and heard no response, the council took a decision to begin construction work. The Israeli authorities later ordered the project suspended after the first floor had been laid.

Those renting municipal-owned offices or shops complain that there is no maintenance work being carried out in their buildings, other al-Bireh residents complain that their requests for construction permits are routed to the West Bank zoning department, rather than being approved locally by the municipality, which is the body legally responsible.

Tawil summed up the situation: "The Israeli authorities claimed, when they dismissed the legitimate mayors, that we were not doing our job. But the fact is that the projects we initiated, they are unable to finish."

-- Al Fajr (dawn) -- Palestinian weekly

'AL-HAWADITH' INTERVIEWS KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER

PM200927 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 21 Jan 83 pp 27, 28

[Interview with Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah Al-Ahmad with Nash'at At-Taghlabi in Kuwait--date not given]

[Excerpts] AL-HAWADITH: Do you believe that the resolutions recently adopted by the United Nations regarding the establishment of a Palestinian state will have any positive effect or will they be added to all the previous resolutions that remain unimplemented?

Sabah Al-Ahmad: It is no secret that the United Nations organization issues its resolutions on the basis of the belief of its members, who believe in the justice of this cause, and in accordance with the principles and rules on which this international body was based. The countries to which these resolutions apply are obliged to implement them fully. If they are not observed and not implemented further measures should be taken against them. But in any case the United Nations cannot impose these resolutions by force because it does not have the material power to enable it to do so in the first place. Countries must respect UN resolutions or else chaos will prevail, the organization will be weakened and its resolutions will not be respected. In the end this will lead to its downfall, as in the case of the League of Nations, whose downfall led to the outbreak of World War II.

AL-HAWADITH: Is there any possibility at present of convening an international conference to discuss the Palestine problem and do you think that the United States would agree to the holding of such a conference in view of the continued Israeli rejection?

Sabah Al-Ahmad: There is no doubt that we support this idea. Israel has complicated the problem by persistently refusing solutions and will continue to complicate it and refuse every solution. It does not hesitate to reveal its intentions and designs to usurp Arab lands as long as it finds every support and encouragement from the United States and certain European countries in usurping not only Palestine but any Arab land it can. Therefore I would say that if there is good will and if the big powers really want to solve this problem justly, an international conference must be held

in which all the countries concerned participate, including the United States and the Soviet Union. However, I still believe that the Arabs are capable of solving their problem if they speak with one voice and decide to act in unison.

AL-HAWADITH: The situation in Lebanon is becoming increasingly dangerous day after day because of Israel's attempt to create sectarian disturbances that would enable it to remain in Lebanese territory. Is there still any hope that the United States will make Israel withdraw?

Sabah Al-Ahmad: By God I do not know whether the United States can or cannot make Israel withdraw from Lebanon. But I realize and I am sure that Israel will withdraw from Lebanon only if withdrawal is imposed on it. You must understand what I mean by imposing: Can this be done by supporting it and helping it materially and morally or by forcing it? There must be a reason or several reasons behind its refusal to withdraw. It could be a question of joint strategic interests or agreements with other parties. The reason could also be the disintegration of the internal Lebanese front, the differences of views and the failure to adopt a strong Arab stand. Only God knows. In summary, Israel will withdraw only by force. You must interpret the meaning of the force that will compel it to withdraw. No other means will be of any avail.

AL-HAWADITH: What is your opinion of the strengthening of the U.S. rapid deployment force in order to defend U.S. interests in the Gulf and the rest of the Arab homeland?

Sabah Al-Ahmad: This story has been repeated for a long time. It is being told and retold by the U.S. leaders on various occasions and today we are hearing it even more often. It is no secret that the international powers look upon their own interests or what they claim to be their interests in the world in a manner that we disagree with. In the light of these alleged interests these powers decide their strategic course in the world and establish or try to establish bases here and there in order to protect their interests. As for us, as an Arab state in the Arab Gulf, we have declared time and again that protecting Gulf security is the responsibility of its states, for they are the ones that have a right, have their own interests and are responsible for defending their own people. We have nothing else to say.

CSO: 4400/162

DAILY COMMENTS ON RECOGNITION ISSUE

CF181138 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 17 Jan 83 p 6

["Opinion" column by Ahmad Al-Jarallah]

[Text] At one of the secret meetings held during the 1967 Arab summit in Khartoum, the late president An-Nasir told King Husayn of Jordan to "cooperate even with the devil" to restore the West Bank.

In those days any talk about Arab-American relations was considered treason and imperialist cooperation.

After the 1967 war many unacceptable things became acceptable, including 'Abd An-Nasir's acceptance of the Rogers' proposal to recognise Israel as a state in the region. This had not been acceptable since 1948.

We rejected Sadat's proposal in 1977 and then rejected the Camp David accords--all basically the same as the Rogers' proposal.

King Husayn was told to use every possible means at his disposal to restore the West Bank. Now we say the same thing to Lebanon in its negotiations with Israel. The only step Lebanon must not take is to establish diplomatic ties with Israel, because the time is not ripe.

The question seems to be a question of timing only.

If Egypt, for example, had delayed its initiative until Israel occupied Cairo, we would have told her to do everything possible to recover it.

The only difference between Egypt and Lebanon is that Lebanon is acting at a suitable time and so the Arabs are not opposing it.

It seems we have to wait for a suitable time for Jordan and other front line countries. It seems we are on the brink of more wars and catastrophies in our search for a suitable time to begin negotiations like those between Lebanon and Israel.

The question that remains unanswered is: Would the Arab world have opposed Egypt as it did over Camp David, if Egypt had begun its peace initiative after it was defeated in a war with Israel?

CSO: 4400/162

KUWAIT

LEBANESE PAPER INTERVIEWS KUWAITI PRIME MINISTER

LD081822 Kuwait KUNA in English 1600 GMT 8 Jan 83

["Embargoed for Automatic Release Sunday Morning": KUNA caveat]

[Text] Beirut, Jan 8 (KUNA)--The crown prince and prime minister of Kuwait, Shaykh Sa'd Al-'Abdallah has warned that the continuity of the Israeli presence in Lebanon poses unpredictable threats to other Arab countries and adversely affects the situation in the Arab world.

In a wide-ranging interview to be published Sunday in the Lebanese magazine, 'AL-AFKAR', Shaykh Sa'd said the delay of Israeli withdrawal hampers peace initiatives aimed at settling the Middle East crisis, foremost of which was the Arab peace plan of the Fes summit conference last September.

If Israel, which is seeking excuses to keep its forces in Lebanon, managed to achieve its destructive goals, perilous repercussions are to be expected, Shaykh Sa'd said, adding that (?all) Arabs should jointly confront these (Israeli) goals and expose them on the international level.

Stressing that the Lebanese should close their ranks and achieve national entente, he indicated that it is the national duty of all Arabs to support Lebanon and assist it in liberating its territories from the Israeli occupation.

Lebanon's liberation and stability will make that Arab country a stabilizing factor in the region and help it re-assume its positive role in the Arab policy and solidarity, he noted.

Responding to a question on current integration between member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Shaykh Sa'd said the GCC is playing a leading role in coordinating cooperation between the Gulf states and also with Arab and Islamic countries in general.

The council practically embodies the aspirations of its members toward the ultimate goal of integration in all fields of development and the building up of a collective power in a bid to safeguard security, stability and prosperity for the people of its members, he added.



The GCC is a regional body which groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman.

Asked whether the region's security tops the council's interests, he replied: "Security is a key factor for the stability and development of the region, and a security pact has been reached (between the GCC members), since we believe that the Gulf's security is the responsibility of the peoples of the region."

Underlining the need for keeping the region away from conflicts between the two superpowers, Shaykh Sa'd outlined the key features of the security pact as the refusal of any foreign intervention in the region, self-achieved security and a comprehensive military coordination between the GCC members.

Asked by the interviewer on "differences" between the GCC members regarding internal security, Shaykh Sa'd said, "I do not call them differences. (?Rather they are) proposals aimed at the amendment of certain items of the (?security) pact."

"Discussing [words indistinct] subsequently, postponed for reassessment before presenting the agreement to the council, he added.

With reference to new steps taken by the council toward economic integration between its members, H.H. the crown prince highlighted that serious action is being taken to achieve that end.

Specifically, he referred to the council's approval of setting up a two-billion-dollar investment corporation and a future industrial working plan.

Other ventures, he said, include the setting up of an information center to provide the Gulf industries with technical data and the establishment of (?some) industries in areas of medicine, electrical appliances, building materials, whose products are to be marketed in the region.

What the GCC has achieved over the short period since its establishment (in May, 1981) reflects the genuine determination of its member states and gives room for satisfaction and hope, he summed up.

On the Iran-Iraq war, Shaykh Sa'd said, "We, and our brothers in Arab and Islamic countries, have exerted all efforts possible to put an end to the blood-letting and to make the two warring states accept mediation and embark on negotiations to settle the dispute on just basis."

Questioned whether there were new mediation initiatives after the failure of previous attempts, the crown prince made it clear that mediation efforts will continue until peaceful settlement between the two Muslim countries is reached.

Replying to a question whether King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has requested that Algeria renew its mediation attempts to settle the Gulf conflict, Shaykh Sa'd noted that the Saudi monarch was most concerned about that dispute and has been active to "extinguish the fire which guts the capabilities of the two Muslim states."

Asked to comment on reports that international circles are arranging a settlement for the Gulf-war and considering (?dispatching) multinational forces to be deployed on the common Iraqi-Iranian borders, Shaykh Sa'd said, "We do not have any knowledge of such reports."

CSO: 4400/162

PAPER CALLS FOR IRAQ, YEMEN JOINING GCC

GF091614 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 8 Jan 83 p 1

[Editorial: "The Gulf War and Pressing Developments"]

[Excerpts] It seems that Tehran has rejected the recent attempt by Algeria to end the Iranian war against Iraq. The fact of the matter is that many people were not surprised. The Iranian insistence on continuing this war is indisputable. This insistence confirms the profound fact that the goal of this war has not yet been completely achieved. This goal--which was planned by the Americans--to enable Israel to break the Arab region and destroy its bases requires, as it seems, this Iranian stubbornness that is no longer understood by any human in the entire world.

We believe that the actual move the GCC countries must adopt is to invite both Iraq and Yemen [the YAR] to join the council and establish a strategy for an intrinsic defense of the region.

We also believe in the necessity of a serious move, within this framework, to settle the conflict that exists between Syria and Iraq. Such a settlement would represent a huge power and a guarantee that the Gulf front together with Syrian support will be able to confront danger and annul the pretexts that can be used against the region as a result of the U.S. attempts to emerge as a protector of the region.

May we suggest that Kuwait convert Bubiyan Island into a huge naval base for all the GCC countries because the Gulf has not been left to live in peace and because the Iranian attempt to bring about the downfall of the Iraqi front is a prelude to the downfall of the entire Gulf.

CSO: 4400/162



LOW OIL PRODUCTION TO CAUSE BUDGET DEFICIT

GF181716 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 17 Jan 83 pp 1, 23

[Text] The minister of state for cabinet affairs ['Abd Al-'Aziz Husayn] has emphasized that Kuwait does not support the idea of lowering oil prices at the present time. The OPEC countries have to unify their efforts and preserve the organization's unity.

The minister said low oil production in Kuwait has affected the petrochemicals factory production and will directly affect the budget deficit for the next fiscal year.

The minister was answering a question on the OPEC ministerial meeting which is currently being held in Bahrain. The minister said the oil minister's meeting is intended to study the oil market situation, production, marketing and coordinating the stands of the members due to excess in the oil market. The minister added that Kuwait does not support the idea of lowering oil prices in as much as it calls for unity and cohesion among the OPEC members. The deficit in last year's budget, the minister said, will recur in the next budget due to low oil production in Kuwait and will also affect the petrochemicals factory production.

The minister said Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd Al-'Aziz Khaddam will visit Kuwait within a tour of some Gulf countries.

The minister of state for cabinet affairs denied that the visit by the French economy and finance minister to Kuwait is to get a loan to bolster France's economy. The French minister's visit, he said, is to complete the discussion of issues which were discussed during his previous visit to Kuwait and a ministerial sub-committee for cooperation and consultations in the economic field between Kuwait and France has been formed. The Kuwaiti finance and planning minister's visit to France has not been fixed yet, he said.

CSO: 4400/162

## DECISION NOT TO PURCHASE GULF OIL REFINERIES DISCUSSED

Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 12, Dec 82 pp 30-31

[Text]

**I**t took over a month for the top officials of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) to take a painful decision announced on Nov 3. In fact, a local newspaper disclosed it on that Wednesday. The decision itself had been made at a meeting almost on the morning of Nov 1.

After over one year of slow, painstaking, detailed discussions, the KPC came to the conclusion that it would not continue negotiations for the \$500 million purchase of 3,800 petrol pumping stations of the Gulf Oil Corporation in Europe. Included in the deal were 40 storage terminals across the continent and lubricating oil plants in Belgium and Denmark.

Had the deal gone through, the next in line were nearly half a dozen refineries of various capacities owned by Gulf Oil in various parts of Europe. Gulf Oil, considered the sixth biggest oil multinational in the world and one of the famous 'seven sisters' of the petroleum world, has been an ailing giant for nearly two years. For about one year now, Gulf Oil had pinned its hopes on KPC buying its loss ridden refining and marketing operations in Europe.

"If there was anyone to blame, it was the Gulf Oil itself," said an oil industry source in Kuwait. "They didn't tell the KPC the whole truth. Those guys didn't know they were dealing with top notch professionals."

**Rights**

The KPC Vice President for marketing, Sheikh Ali Jaber Al Ali Al Sabah told newsmen on Friday, Nov 5, that "only recently we discovered they had no rights to sell their operations in Switzerland."

"They told us of it only a month ago and then our differences started. We also discovered meanwhile that there were several technical shortcomings" which Gulf Oil had not told us all about.

"The KPC has stopped negotiations with Gulf Oil for good," said Sheikh Ali. Almost in the same week, Gulf Oil had announced from its Pittsburgh headquarters in the States that it had suffered a 54 per cent drop in profits this year compared to the profits of 316 million dollars last year.

It was not an easy decision for the KPC to make, industry sources said. After all, the purchase would have completed a gigantic circle of operations for KPC, making it the first ever integrated multinational owned by an oil producing country. KPC, which was formed in January 1980 with a capital of over \$8.5 billion as an umbrella organization for all the oil related activities of Kuwait. Since

then, KPC has emerged almost a complete oil firm, with all the services controlled by it. All but downstream operations in a major market like Europe. After all, the few pumping stations in Kuwait itself do not count.

For KPC, the decision was like an Olympic champion quitting the race of a lifetime at the last few seconds. Just as the winning post was in sight and with it, the gleaming gold medal, KPC had to give up, despite its strength to win. And yet, KPC "did not want to be treated like traders in a bazaar, taken for a ride by a smart aleck," says an industry source. For to keep technical details a secret and not reveal its inability to sell a good section of the operations in fully legal terms, was like hiding the truth from KPC.

#### **Tied up**

Neither the Gulf Oil nor KPC have made it clear why its operations in Switzerland specifically can't be sold. But the speculation is that the downstream operations are tied up with Swiss government rules. Had the KPC not stumbled upon it, it would have been left holding the baby after the deal had gone through.

Gulf Oil's 3,800 gasoline stations are in Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Luxembourg, Sweden and Switzerland.

The KPC could have made good use of the refineries and outlets of Gulf Oil because it has access to crude oil in a depressed market.

With added value, Kuwait's heavy grade oil, which must compete with lighter grades from neighbouring countries, had hope of selling better and of having an assured market. Any company which has control of operations all the way from production, transporting, storing, refining and then selling would be in a secure position. It would not have to depend on the caprice of multinationals or the fluctuations of market prices.

Gulf Oil was at the other end of the stick, saddled with ageing refineries which could hardly make profits in an increasingly competitive and costly market. Gulf Oil's Milford Haven refinery in south Wales, England, with a capacity of 110,000 barrels a day, has been operating at only 21 per cent capacity because of the weak market for oil products in that country and in Europe in general.

A market source in London, contacted on phone, said however "that Gulf Oil was not planning to sell its England based refinery because later this year it is setting up a cracker plant at a cost of 800 million dollars. That should help that refinery out of the depression soon enough."

#### **Interest**

However, the source said: "Other Gulf Oil refineries in Europe could have interested KPC. Rotterdam's Europort (75,000 bpd) and the Gulhavn in Denmark (85,000 bpd) for instance."

In addition, the American multinational has a 75 per cent stake in a refinery in Milan, Italy and a 25 per cent interest in a Swiss plant. The Danish refinery is to be closed down by the end of this year. "All European operations have been running at 46 per cent capacity even by the end of 1981," the London source said. The plant in Italy has been closed already and is even being dismantled.

In Pittsburgh, Gulf Oil Corporation spokesmen confirmed on Nov 3 that talks with KPC had been terminated. The spokesmen said the Gulf Oil would continue to find a prospective buyer. According to New York press reports, another purchaser has surfaced, but Gulf Oil did not confirm it. Sources in Pittsburgh also did not agree that it was technical shortcomings and difficulties over Swiss operations that had left to the termination of talks. According to them, the dispute was over the price.

Oil sources in London and in Kuwait discounted the possibility of any other purchaser arriving on the scene. Nor did they think that price could be a discouragement to the Kuwaitis.

For the KPC only recently struck a deal which was considered "the biggest of its kind in the world," according to press commentators in the west. This was the purchase of the American firm Santa Fe, for 2.5 billion dollars in March this year. Santa Fe, with its expertise in drilling, exploration, contracting for oil related industries, filled in a major sector of KPC activity.

#### **Acquisition**

Until the acquisition of Santa Fe, KPC was essentially a corporation which could produce and transport a part of its crude. It could also refine a modest 600,000 bpd in its local plants.

With the acquisition of Santa Fe as a wholly owned subsidiary, however, KPC emerged as a corporation that could for instance, carry out its own exploration offshore and onshore. As Kuwait Oil Minister and Chairman of KPC, Sheikh Ali Khalifa said recently, KPC is not only drilling at eight locations within Kuwaiti territory, but is participating in 20 other exploration concessions of other countries. This includes a chunk of the North Sea.

KPC has been able to entrust the upgrading of its Minal Abdalla and Al Ahmadi refineries to a subsidiary of Santa Fe. Being part of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Kuwait is also in an ideal position to promote KPC as a suitable contractor for all oil related contracts in neighbouring oil producing countries. In fact, KPC is already carrying out exploratory studies off Bahrain.

With the expertise of Santa Fe to back it up, KPC is on par with any other engineering company of the world to complete in tenders. This is the first time ever that an OPEC member is able to do so. When one remembers that KPC also controls some 72 billion barrels in reserves, the strength of the corporation becomes clearer still.

KPC's emerging stature in world oil market puts a different complexion on the power of Arab producers. Already, the United Arab Emirates is integrating its oil activities, with Abu Dhabi National Oil Company taking the lead. UAE is set to become self sufficient in refinery capacity.

#### Plans

Oil industry analysts have predicted that increasingly, Arab oil producers will seek to become self sufficient in oil production, refining and export. They mention Saudi Arabia's accent on petrochemical plants and the plans of the Sabic (Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation) projects to add value to its crude and to make use of its associated gas.

GCC is also promoting a refinery in Bahrain and another in Muscat, Oman. These and other such projects can rely on emerging giants like KPC for expertise and technical know how, a vital aspect of development.

"Oil producers have made no secret of the fact that they would rather sell petroleum products than crude," industry sources said in an interview. "It's like selling tin or copper, instead of selling the finished products."

And "corporations like the KPC are the first step towards this goal. You must have the resources to go it alone," they pointed out.

KPC has the following wholly owned subsidiaries: Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) in charge of oil and gas exploration and production; Kuwait National Petroleum Corporation (KNPC) in charge of the refining of oil and the liquefying of gas; Petrochemical Industries Company (PIC) in charge of the production, distribution and marketing of petrochemicals and Kuwait Oil Tankers Company (KOTC) in charge of shipping crude and refined oil.

Since its formation, KPC has set up two more companies, each with KD 100 million (about 340 million dollars) to run its overseas operations. The first was Kuwait Overseas Petroleum Company (KOPEC) to carry out explorations and production abroad. The second was the Kuwait International Petroleum Investment Company (KIPIC), of which 30 per cent is in private sector equity participation. This is for investment in the petroleum sector abroad.

#### Size

"KPC is the only corporation of its kind among producers which can compare in size to the multinationals," an analyst pointed out in Kuwait during an interview. "Had it acquired Gulf Oil's downstream operations, it would have become one of the multinationals in all respects."

"Just to give one example of the emerging power of KPC," he said, "it will be able to transport 40 per cent of its crude exports in its own tankers by the end of this year. And mind you, these are all modern tankers."

Industry sources said here that the termination of talks with Gulf Oil did not mean that KPC would stop its search for downstream outlets in the major markets of the world. "That's bound to come, sooner or later," they said.

Oil producers have a decided advantage in that crude is available at cost price. "What they lacked until now is the resources in terms of organisation and skills. KPC is making up for that lacuna, and it is only a matter of time when other producers will catch up."

"The champion might have stopped short of the winning post, but that is only for a bigger event and for better gains," commented the analyst on KPC's decision to stop talking to Gulf Oil.

## UASC ACHIEVEMENTS DISCUSSED

Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 12, Dec 82 pp 32-33

[Text]

**W**ithin seven years of its establishment, the United Arab Shipping Company (UASC) has emerged as the largest carrier of goods to the Gulf. Judged by the keen competition in the shipping world, which is now passing through a period of recession, this is no mean achievement.

State owned firms are normally given to ponderous management, which invariably leads to avoidable losses. UASC has managed to circumvent this problem, though it is owned not by one but six states: Kuwait, UAE, Qatar, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

And yet UASC proved profitable within the first 18 months of its establishment in 1977. The world wide recession of 1978-79 did not spare UASC, but the year 1980 was a good one for business. The losses were wiped out and last year, UASC turned in a net profit of nearly a hundred million dollars.

"We are going to make a modest profit even by the end of this year," says Hamid Thulfikar Abdul Rahman, who is Deputy Chief Executive for Liners, UASC. There was an estimated profit of 35 million dollars in the first six months of 1982.

The idea behind setting up UASC was to develop the organizational capacity, the fleet and the know how among the Arab countries

themselves. It was another attempt to avoid being totally dependent on the international shipping lines who had no particular commitment to the Arab countries.

The test came during the prolonged war between Iran and Iraq. UASC's willingness to continue carrying cargo in the region deterred international companies from making an unreasonable hike in war risk rates.

UASC already has 55 vessels in its fleet. A modern container ship was to join the fleet on Dec 2, bringing the total to 56. By the end of the 1983, UASC is expected to have 64 ships. Already, it is one of the top ten in the world, in the worlds of Abdul Rahman.

The nine new ships are coming from Hyundai of South Korea. The order for a total of 400 million dollars was placed on June 30, 81 for nine 1,846 TEU container ships of 35,500 DWT class and 14,000 steel container boxes.

Besides these UASC also charters ships. It has five liner services, Abdul Rahman said. These are to the Gulf and Red Sea ports from UK and North West Europe, from the Mediterranean, from the US, from South America and from the Far East.

"As you can see, we are at present expanding the container side of the business," Abdul Rahman said, referring to the ones on order and the ones now in service.

**Modern**

Rahman points out that the entire fleet of UASC is modern and competitive. "That's one reason why we make profits. True, as a national carrier we do get preference when it



comes to Arab cargo. But we have got to be efficient to see that this national priority is implemented."

Rahman said even the private sector was becoming more and more aware now of the UASC. The Arab merchant "has been often a victim of the fly-by-night operators. He has burnt his fingers. Now he realises that in a company like UASC, he has a reliable friend and a well established organization."

Rahman is confident of his company's future. "We may move into car carriers and rolling stock," he says. Future plans include computerisation at all levels and organizational efficiency at the optimum.

UASC is already lifting 40 percent of the conference liner trades to the Gulf. "We operate a much greater frequency of services to the Arabian Gulf than any other line, and, being based in the Gulf, have direct access to all consignees," he said.

Rahman conceded that UASC had to have an empty run on its way out from the Gulf, a situation which by itself it cannot help. But he hoped things would change for the better as the Gulf industrialises.

The UASC Deputy Chief Executive for Fleet, Tariq Naseeb Al-Omari said the company had already geared itself into handling the latest types of container ships. He said the first delivery of the nine ships ordered from South Korea was named MV Dubai, partly because the container management department of the UASC was based in Dubai.

Omari said forty of the UASC's fleet were 'K' class of 22,800 tons, with a million cubic feet capacity and a service speed of 16 knots. This makes them particularly suitable for project cargo, large and unwieldy loads.

The fleet also included eight Bezhitsa class vessels with a dead weight tonnage of 13,440, a capacity of 623,000 cubic feet and a service speed of 16 knots.

### Service

Four Hyundai built (earlier than the ones now on order) container ships are also in service, Al Omari said. UASC sold five 'B' class vessels during 1981 as they were not considered economically suitable for UASC operations.

Al Omari, who has spent long years in senior positions in the Iraqi fleet, said the Gulf ports today were "some of the finest as far as facilities for container cargo are concerned." Hence the UASC emphasis on container cargo was in the right direction, he said.

Al-Omari said one of the major objectives of the company was to train a qualified Arab cadre to man its fleet. It is making steady progress in this direction by recruiting some 100 young Arab boys every year for a four year training, two of them at sea. Boys are selected after they pass secondary school and are put through the four year course, either at the maritime institution at Sharjah or at the one at Basra, Al Omari added.

There are now 196 Arab officers manning UASC ships, which amounts to about 10 percent of the strength. Considering that the UASC started almost from a scratch, this number is commended by observers as a notable achievement. UASC recruits cadets not only from the nations which own the company but also from other Arab countries. The course is free of charge and cadets are given a stipend for minor expenses. They get a second officer's certificate at the end of their course.

Presently, a majority of the officers are from Britain, followed by the Japanese and other nationalities. The total number of people now working for the UASC is about 5,000. The company carried some 5.5 million tonnes of general cargo in 1981, compared to about 4.7 million tonnes the year before. Container cargo last year was 78,500 tonnes, compared to about 58,000 tonnes carried the year before.

## INDUSTRIAL SECTOR BOOSTED

Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 12, Dec 82 p 37

[Text]

**A**S the objectives of growth and diversification of the Kuwaiti economy become more pressing in view of the international oil situation and its influence on Kuwait's oil revenues, the government has intensified its efforts to promote the industrial sector.

So far, in 1982, the Industrial Bank of Kuwait, which was formed in 1973 as a joint undertaking between the government and the private sector to promote and finance industrial ventures, has approved loans to 25 industrial projects.

The total cost of the projects reached 141 million dollars with IBK providing over 50 percent of the financing needs at concessional terms.

One of the most recent and significant projects includes the expansion of Kuwait cement company's production capacity by 720,000 tons, to reach 2,100,000 tons annually by the end of 1983.

The total cost of the project is 50.4 million dollars, of which 32.4 million dollars will be provided by the Industrial Bank of Kuwait. Another major industrial venture will be undertaken by the Gulf glass manufacturing company, set up in 1982 with a capital of 15.48 million dollars as a joint undertaking between the Kuwaiti government, IBK and several private entities.

**Project**

The project, which will cost 30 million dollars and was awarded to an Italian company, will undertake to build the largest bottle manufacturing industry of its kind in the Gulf area, with a production capacity of 34,000 tons of glass bottles a year.

In the oil-related downstream sector, the Petrochemical Industries company PIC will set up a plant to produce sodium chloride (salt).

Recently, a Japanese company won a contract worth 11 million dollars for process licensing, detailed engineering and supply of equipment for that plant.

The Gulf paper manufacturing company's newly built paper plant is another major venture which started production this year.

The plant, which cost 29 million dollars, is the first of its kind in the Middle East to use a closed water system which recycles the water used in the manufacturing process. Total annual production is estimated to reach 9,000 tons of tissue paper and 14,000 tons of industrial paper.

The value of Kuwait's exports fell from 9.20 billion dollars to 6.47 billion in the first half of the fiscal year 1981-82, a 30 percent decrease, on the previous year, according to the central bank's annual report.

There was a slight growth in the value of imports from 3.33 billion dollars to 3.44 billion.

The report refers to substantial slackening of oil exports as crude production in the first six months of the year fell by 37 percent to around 940,000 bpd.

The production cutback was attributed to sluggish international market demand and Kuwait's policy of conserving its reserves.

In recent years, said the report, the bank had concentrated its efforts on protecting the domestic economy from "detrimental external effects" specially rising interest rates and the fluctuation of foreign exchange rates.

In 1981, according to planning ministry estimates, the gross domestic product (GDP) in the non-oil sector rose by 15.9 percent against 11.5 percent the previous year.

BANK GROWTH SLOWS, DECREASE IN CREDIT EXTENSION NOTED

Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 12, Dec 82 p 38

[Text]

The growth of the commercial banks of Kuwait in terms of total assets and liabilities during the second quarter of the current year has slowed down from its first quarter level, a specialized report said.

The aggregate balance sheet of commercial banks reached 29.52 million dollars during the second quarter, compared to 28.44 million dollars in the first quarter representing a 3.5 percent rate of growth as opposed to a 5.2 percent achieved during the first quarter, the quarterly economic and financial review published by the National Bank of Kuwait said.

Claims on the private sector, which are the most important assets, grew by only four percent as opposed to a 15 percent increase experienced during the first quarter.

This reflects the banks' more conservative approach to lending as well as the authoritative

effectiveness in controlling the rapid increase in credit extension to the private sector, which grew at a very accelerated rate of increase, and was reflected by personal loans which grew at a mere 2.3 per cent during the second quarter, compared to 17 percent during the first quarter, the report added.

On the liabilities' side, private deposits reached 14 billion dollars by the end of the second quarter, representing one per cent increase as opposed to a 5 per cent increase during the first quarter.

The slight rise, despite the small decline in savings and time deposits, reflects the 5 percent increase in sight deposits as developments during May and June contributed to the relative activation of the domestic stock market.

Meanwhile, foreign liabilities increased by 10 per cent compared to a 7 per cent increase in the first quarter.

CSO: 4400/157



INVESTMENTS ABROAD SAID TO REACH \$52.2 BILLION

Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 12, Dec 82 p 38

[Text]

Kuwaiti investment abroad totalled 52.2 billion dollars in December 1981 and is currently distributed in 44 countries besides the United States, it was reported in Kuwait recently.

Figures on investment were provided by Minister of Finance and Planning Abdul Latif Al Hamad in reply to a parliamentary inquiry on the matter.

Without specifying the size or the nature of investment in each country, the reply named 14 industrial nations, 17 Arab states, seven non-Arab Islamic countries and six other developing states as included in the Kuwaiti investment network.

The reply put the financial return of those investments at an annual rate of 8.6 percent, not including the capital profits.

In this respect the ministerial reply stressed that the investment policy being adopted emphasises the trend towards assets.

The minister's reply noted that Kuwaiti investments in the Arab, Islamic and developing countries "have not reached the level aspired to" by the concerned parties, and attributed this to a number of obstacles.

Among the ten obstacles cited were political instability, high taxes, restrictions on venues of investment, bureaucracy and difficulties encountered while some construction material needs to be imported for the completion of some investment projects.

Kuwaiti investment has been the subject of criticism by some Kuwaiti MPs for failing to concentrate mainly on Arab and Islamic countries.

Kuwaiti funds, deposited in US banks as form of investment, was particularly cited as an example of investment policy focusing mainly on the western hemisphere. A number of deputies in the wake of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon urged the government to withdraw these deposits as form of retaliation against US policies in the Middle East.

## BUBIYAN ISLAND SAID TO BE USED AS MILITARY BASE

Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 12, Dec 82 pp 13-14

[Text]

**K**UWAIT has very nearly finished building a bridge which has cost the exchequer some 48 million dollars, enough to bail Poland out of its external debts. This bridge, considered an engineering landmark, links a totally uninhabited desert with a small island that has been neglected by man since the dawn of history.

As one scribe put it, it is indeed a bridge from nowhere to nowhere. The island is about 30 km by 60 km, wedged between Kuwait and Iraq. Last year, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein declared that his country could make excellent use of the Bubiyan island, by making it a naval base. "Kuwait could lease the island to us. We have no outlet to the Gulf waters, except through the Shatt Al-Arab river, why should we not, as Arab brothers, be given that island?"

Saddam Hussein said so in an interview to a Kuwaiti daily. Since then, Kuwait quietly garrisoned the island with a battalion of troops supported by some armour and set the process in motion to build a bridge. Not only will the bridge be out there in the desert, but it will be supported on either side by townships. On the island itself, it is more

likely to be a military township than a civil. As for this side of the bridge, plans have already been launched to build a township for 5,000 people.

On the island, the exploration arm of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation has done some drilling. Several experiments in fish farming and fishing have been launched.

**Air base**

However, Kuwait is certain to build an air base, and deploy surface to surface and surface to air missiles, according to some analysts. Support units for these defence equipment will be the main inhabitation of Bubiyan. If oil is struck in commercial quantities, it would still be worth defending.

The bridge is a remarkable one, and for several reasons. It brings to Kuwait a prototype design and building technique never before tried anywhere in the world. Most multinational engineering firms of the world are studying it from a technical point of view.

It is the first ever civil works project awarded by the Kuwait Public Works Ministry as a turn-key project. The result has been so impressive that the Ministry is likely to make a major departure from its established practice and award most future projects on a turn-key basis.

The bridge is to be completed in all its aspects, that is even asphaltting and finishing, by March 1983. This is four months ahead of

schedule, since contract was awarded in April 1981.

Another remarkable aspect was that the workers were all from Communist China. Except for Iraq, no other Gulf country has ever known such workers. And they have done a job that has won admiration for them all round.

Responsible for the concept, design and construction of the bridge is Bouygues, right now basking in the glory of having put the last span of the Bubiyan bridge in place on Nov. 18. Reports about how this well known French firm built the bridge read like ecstatic poems of flattery.

### Technology

Not only did Bouygues bring in their latest technology, they also mastered the problem of communications. Contractors working within Kuwait city and surroundings have come up against problems of supplies and delays for no fault of their own. It could have been worse for Bouygues. But they surmounted it and went ahead with their determined team of Chinese workers. The two had worked before in Iraq and there was a rapport.

"When others prefer to walk, we tend to run," said Albert Bernardo, the project manager of Bouygues, referring to the research work. He said his company pumps about four per cent of its profits back into research. "More innovations are in the pipeline," he says. Despite the latest technology, Bouygues has provided a ten year guarantee to Kuwait.

The main innovation in engineering design lies in the bridge deck developed by Bouygues research director, Pierre Richard, back in Clamart, Paris, where the company is based. The meticulously mounted brochure of the company explains how the design innovation works. "This is founded on the prestressed reinforced concrete girder structure with a three dimensional truss, originally designed for the Tehran Olympic Stadium in 1973. The concept has been adapted for a bridge

"Essentially it is a bridge made of segments, not a new technique by itself, points out Bernardo, but the novelty is in the lightness of the individual segments, allowing for savings in materials.

The deck of the bridge comprises of fifty eight 40-meter spans, plus a central navigable span. Each span is composed of two slabs linked by a truss, formed by a series of identical triangles. The truss segments, two special and eight ordinary ones in each span, have been designed so as to save about 35 per cent of material on cables, 20 per cent on concrete and 20 to 25 per cent on steel.

### New technique

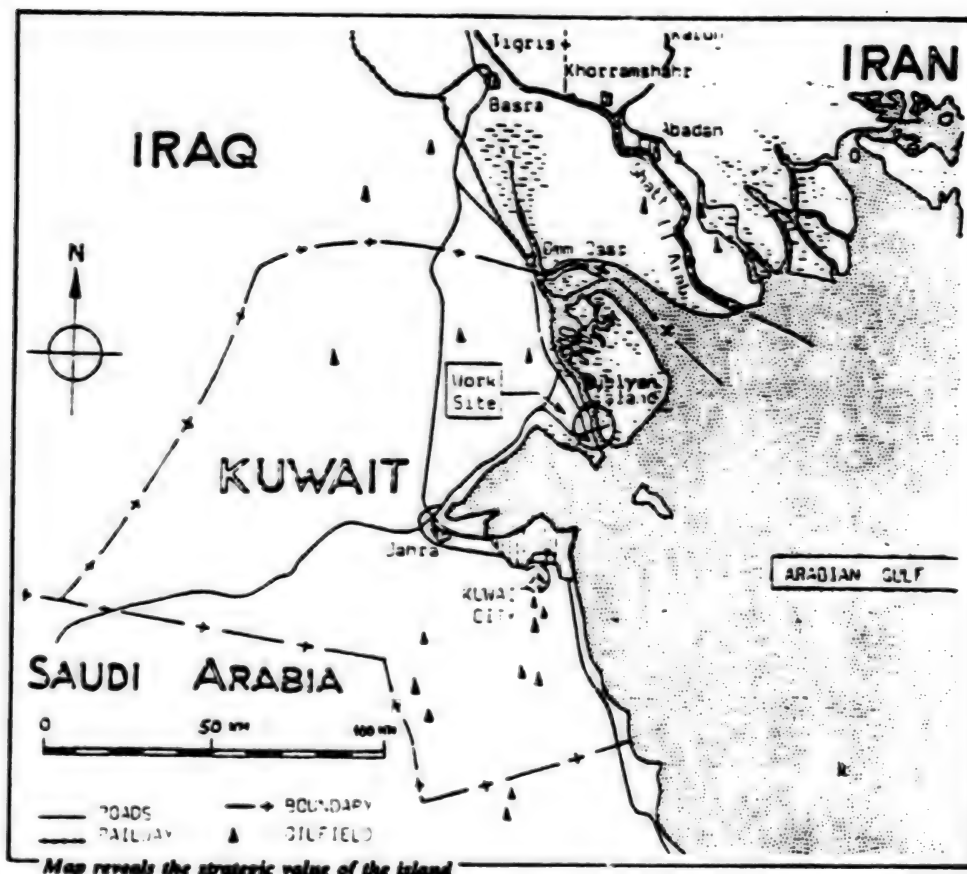
Another new technique is the "external pre-stressing method" in which pre-stressing cables are run along the outer surface of the structure, to allow for easier future maintenance.

It was because of this breakthrough that costs were kept down by Bouygues. Even so, Bouygues has ended up spending about five million dollars more than it bid for and was awarded the contract for. There is a possibility that the Ministry might consider paying the difference, because of the quality of the work and because it has been finished so early.

That the Kuwaiti government attaches a great deal of importance to the bridge was proved when no less a person than the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Abdullah Al-Sabah, himself was on hand on Nov 18 to witness the last span being swung in place. With that kind of goodwill, Bouygues can afford to wait to collect the bill, or even lose it.

Thanks to the turn-key approach, Bouygues was spared the difficulties of having to deal with half a dozen contractors of as many nationalities. Being totally in charge of the project was a satisfying experience and helped in keeping up the continuity.

Another feature that made the bridge construction remarkable was the communication facilities the French set up for themselves in the wilderness of Subiya and Bubiyan. The site is connected by a radio link to an antenna on the Meridien Hotel in the heart of Kuwait city. This antenna is linked to the company headquarters in Clamart, Paris, through normal telephone and telex lines, and a rented satellite data link. This allowed a two way communication through which even design drawings and inventory lists could be exchanged.



#### Workers

The Chinese workers come from the China Road and Bridge Engineering Company (CRBC). Bouygues and CRBC had worked together in Iraq. Kuwait did not object to the Chinese workers and the contingent arrived. The Chinese form a separate, independent team, complete with managers, their own engineers skilled and unskilled workers.

Once the teething troubles were over, the Chinese workers learnt the techniques quickly and speeded up the process.

Bouygues has now established a reputation in Kuwait and the Gulf region, something which should help them put to use the electronic and other equipment brought in to build the bridge. Unless they get a new project, these machineries will have to be sold at distress prices.

It was the Bouygues who built the Iraqi nuclear reactor at Osirak.

## BRIEFS

**LOAN TO SWISS COMPANY**--The Kuwait Gulf Bank last month granted a loan of 42 million dollars to the Swiss Company, Springer Andasho Ag, a leading company specialising in energy production. The loan will be utilised to finance water and electricity projects awarded by the Kuwaiti government to the Swiss company. [Text] [Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 12, Dec 82 p 38]

**GOVERNMENT TO SUPERVISE AGRICULTURE**--Kuwait's Ministry of Public Works will control and supervise the distribution of local farm produce from next year, it has been announced. Minister of Public Works, Abdullah Al Rishaid, who toured the farms after a storm last month, said that the government is likely to cut subsidies to farmers from next year, but hinted that it will continue to buy the products and distribute them. Al Rishaid said, "only those farmers who have improved their land yields will be supported by the state. We will buy their produce and sell it on the local market to protect their rights." Farmers, however, will have to buy their own seeds direct from the market to protect their rights but storage facilities will be provided by the Ministry. A ministry team to study the effects of the storm and report. [Text] [Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 12, Dec 82 pp 38-39]

**INCOME DIVERSIFICATION**--Kuwait is looking at ways of diversifying its revenue earnings base, according to Finance Minister Abdul Latif Yousef Al-Hamad. He told visiting journalists in Kuwait last month, "the recession and oil glut constitute a welcome boon to rational expenditure, with the country seeking maximum value for every dinar expended and looking for areas where we could put the dinar to our best advantage," OPECNA reported last month. The minister said Kuwait was giving serious consideration to ways of fuelling the economy. "Until now, the budget has been the main locomotive, but clearly we need more than one locomotive. We are looking at how the private and mixed economy sectors can be used." In addition to present forms of taxation including customs duties and cigarette tax, the government was "giving serious thought" to the possibilities of other indirect taxation. Al-Hamad ruled out the introduction of direct income tax. "The administrative machinery for tax collection is so vast that even those who now have the system are thinking of dismantling it, so why should we take it up?" The Minister said the country would

continue to seek quality investment opportunities in which to participate, no matter where they might be. "The problem is that some countries like Japan do not seem to welcome foreign capital. You can buy Santa Fe but you cannot buy Mitsubishi." Al-Hamad said he believed the future for the world lay in developing the Third World and , through its aid and investment fund, was contributing its share to this. [Text] [Kuwait ARAB OIL in English No 12, Dec 82 p 33]

POPULATION STATISTICS--Kuwait's population increased from 206,000 in 1957 to about 1.4 million in 1980, according to the 1980 census. The Central Statistics Department breakdown of the census results shows Kuwaitis comprise 42 percent of the total population. The statistics show that 36 percent of Kuwaitis over 10 years old are illiterate, compared to 22 percent of expatriates. There is a workforce of 492,000 people, of whom 108,000 are Kuwaitis. [GF181120 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 17 Jan 83 p 4 GF]

PROTOCOL WITH FINLAND--Kuwait, Jan 19 (KUNA)--Kuwait and Finland Wednesday signed an economic and commercial protocol to boost bilateral cooperation. The protocol was signed by assistant undersecretary at the Kuwaiti Ministry of Commerce and Industry for Commerce Affairs 'Ali Al-Wazzan while the Finnish ambassador signed on behalf of his country. Al-Wazzan told KUNA that the protocol stipulates means of joint cooperation in fields of trade and services in addition to the utilization of the Finnish expertise in ports and marine navigation affairs to train Kuwaitis. The protocol emphasizes on cooperating in construction projects and benefitting from Finland's experiments in hydroponics (soiless culture). [Text] [LD200150 Kuwait KUNA in English 1957 GMT 19 Jan 83 LD]

CSO: 4400/162



'AFP' REPORTS ON CONDITIONS IN ANSAR CAMP

NC111504 Paris AFP in English 1337 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Report by Selim Yassine]

[Text] Ansar, South Lebanon, 11 Jan (AFP)—Frequent beatings, "strange" interrogations and denunciations were the daily fare of prisoners held in the Israeli-run camp of Ansar in the weeks following Israel's invasion of Lebanon.

Although conditions of detention are said to have improved in recent months, more than half the initial 9,000 internees at this southern Lebanese site remain prisoner with no end to their ordeal in sight.

Accounts from former detainees and representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross--admitted to the camp since last 15 July--suggest (?improvement came in) October, after the Palestinian Liberation Organization had quit Beirut and prisoners were allowed access to [word indistinct] newsmen.

The camp remains barred to the international press.

Two former prisoners, now living in the Palestinian refugee camp of 'Ayn al-Hilwah near Sidon, were brought to Ansar in late June when the camp held only a few hundred. During those early days, they recall, prisoners received frequent beatings for any slight infraction of camp rules. One rule required they remain perfectly immobile during inspections and throughout the night. If anyone moved slightly, he was beaten following denunciation by the chief of the tent--a prisoner selected by fellow inmates, the two said.

According to the two, who were released on 11 October, Israeli interrogators grilled them about their sexual habits, hobbies and taste for alcohol. They were asked what they thought of the killing at a bullfight.

Refusal of permission to go to the toilets during the night, they recalled, became especially intolerable following an outbreak of dysentery.



Hygiene was minimal at the outset, with one bar of soap and one razor blade shared by 15 tentmates.

An International Red Cross official commented: "Conditions were hard in the beginning but they have improved since October, and especially since the construction of a second camp, in operation for one week now."

According to the ICRC, whose representatives have been present in the camp 5 days out of 7 since mid-July, there remain today 5,400 prisoners from an original total of 9,040.

The relief organization, since its access to the camp, has worked to improve conditions and obtain the release of wounded and chronically ill. According to ICRC representative Philip Contesse, Israel has agreed to 30 percent of those requests.

Since last October, prisoners have been allowed to speak with the Israeli press. They now have games and are permitted to leave their tent to visit one another.

But the space reserved per prisoner still falls below Geneva convention norms, according to Mr Contesse, who added that cramped quarters might actually be a blessing during the harsh winter months, when only butane gas heating is provided.

The ICRC is still attempting to obtain the statute of prisoner of war for those internees who were captured arms in hand.

Palestinians have continued to denounce the detention of numerous employees of civilian organizations such as the Palestinian Red Crescent and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency.

The ICRC is working for their release as "civilian internees" but Israeli authorities have continued to reject the term, considering all Ansar prisoners as "persons brought in for questioning."

CSO: 4400/158

BRIEFS

**BULGARIA TO PURCHASE CITRUS PRODUCTS**--Following today's meeting between Tourism and Economy Minister Ibrahim Halawah and the Bulgarian economic delegation under the Bulgarian foreign trade minister, Minister Halawah said Bulgaria has decided to purchase citrus products from Lebanon, to increase imports and to cooperate in the phase of development and construction whose implementation has started. [Text] [NC151947 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Jan 83]

**RESTRICTIONS FOR ALIENS ENTRY**--The Public Security Directorate General today adopted a series of strict measures governing foreigners' arrival, residence, work and study in Lebanon. It communicated these measures to the quarters concerned. The measures also involve bearers of diplomatic and special passports. It has been stated that the directorate informed the universities in Lebanon that as of today the foreigners presence is subject to the prior approval of the Lebanese public security and that the universities will be responsible for any contraventions. The Public Security Directorate General has also requested all air companies in Lebanon to ascertain in advance that the travelers have entry permits for Lebanon. The company concerned will be responsible for returning any traveler who does not have an entry permit. If the contravention is repeated, the facilities given to the company will be reconsidered. [Text] [NC111807 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1645 GMT 11 Jan 83]

**AL-KHATIB REPORTED IN TRIPOLI**--According to security reports submitted to the officials, the fugitive officer, Ahmad al-Khatib, is currently in Tripoli with a number of his followers after escaping from Beirut by sea. These reports said that the fugitive officer had left West Beirut for one of the al-Shuf areas and then returned to the capital before escaping again by sea toward Tripoli. [Text] [NC131723 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1645 GMT 13 Jan 83]

CSO: 4400/158

## SULTAN ISSUES DECREES ON BUDGET, CITIZENSHIP

GF121810 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Sultan Qabus has issued three Sultani decrees. The following are texts of the decrees:

Sultani Decree No 1 of 1983 ratifies the state's general budget for the year 1983. Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman, after reviewing Sultani Decree No 56 of 1982 on the issuance of the financial law, and in accordance with the public's interest, has decreed the following: Article 1: Ratifies the state's general budget for the year 1983 in accordance with the attached tables. Article 2: All ministries and government departments are to implement this decree in accordance with their capacities. Article 3: This decree is to be published in the official gazette and is to be enacted as of 1 January 1983. Issued on 28 Rabi' al-Awwal 1403 Hegira, 12 January 1983. [Signed] Qabus ibn Sa'id, the sultan of Oman.

Sultani Decree No 2 of 1983 ratifies the agreement of the establishment and statutes of the Gulf investment establishment. Qabus ibn Sa'id, the sultan of Oman, after reviewing the Sultani Decree No 26 of 1975 on the issuance of the law pertaining to the organization and amendment of the state's administrative system and after reviewing the agreement on setting up the Gulf investment establishment that was signed in Manama, Bahrain on 11 October 1982 by the GCC ministers of finance and economy, and in accordance with the public's interest, has decreed the following: Article 1: Ratifies the agreement on setting up the Gulf investment establishment as noted above. Article 2: This decree is to be published in the official gazette and is to be enacted as of the date of issuance. Issued on 28 Rabi' al-Awwal 1403 Hegira, 12 January 1983. [Signed] Qabus ibn Sa'id, the sultan of Oman.

Sultani Decree No 3 of 1983 defines Omani citizens according to law and the conditions to be fulfilled by anyone applying for Omani citizenship, including the condition that he has resided in the sultanate for at least 15 years or 7 years if he is married to an Omani woman. The decree also stipulates that a foreign woman applying for Omani citizenship should have been married for at least 2 years before her application. The law includes provisions for losing citizenship, depriving people of it and refusing it. It provides for forming a committee to settle citizenship differences to be chaired by the minister of interior.

CSO: 4400/159

PLO OFFICE IN BANGKOK SOUGHT

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Dec 82 p 5

[Text]

THE Palestinian Liberation Organisation is seeking approval from the Foreign Ministry to open an information office in Bangkok as quickly as possible, a visiting Palestinian representative said yesterday.

Mr Mustafa Safarini, the PLO's representative in Laos, said that since Thailand now recognises the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people the next step is to allow his organisation to set up an office in Bangkok.

"We are deeply thankful for the stance Thailand took in supporting our national rights and in recognising the PLO. And I am here to give an official letter of thanks from our foreign minister to your foreign minister. But we now ask for our right to establish an information office here so that both sides in the Middle East conflict can be heard.

"We are ready to set up the office anytime. Give us the green light so we can start looking for an office," Safarini said.

Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetaila confirmed Thailand's formal recognition of the PLO last September at the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

The PLO's request to open an office here was revealed last August by another visiting PLO representative, Mr Ali Fayyad, who said that he had received "a positive response" from the Government on the issue.

The Foreign Ministry later said that it was studying the request but did not say whether it will allow the PLO to open an office.

"A lot of one-sided news is presented here," said Mr Safarini. "You have relations with both Koreas and with China and Taiwan. So we

should have the right to have an office. We are not demanding that you should cut relations with Israel," he added.

Mr Safarini, who is here as an official guest of the Foreign Ministry, will meet high-ranking ministry officials including members of its permanent secretariat, the director general of the Political Department, and officials from the African and Arab Affairs Division.

He said that he would also like to meet ACM Siddhi as well but no meeting is on the agenda.

The PLO has been allowed to open offices in 115 countries. It was made the 94th member of the non-aligned group and is a full member of the Arab League.

Mr Safarini will be in Bangkok for two days before returning to Vientiane where he has been the PLO representative for the last six years.

SAUDI ARABIA

KING ASKS CITIZENS TO STOP HOLDING CEREMONIES FOR HIM

GF172000 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Jan 83

["Text" of national address by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz 17 January--  
read by announcer]

[Text] To my sons and brothers, the citizens. It pleases me to visit the kingdom's villages, cities and desert from time to time to acquaint myself with the progress of work all over the state's regions and in various projects being implemented and to study these areas' requirements so as to achieve a high standard of affluence, progress and development--a thing which is in line with our tolerant faith which has shown all acts of goodness and forbidden us from doing all things which do not profit the citizens and homeland.

My brothers and sons. I very much appreciate your hospitality and welcome. No doubt this springs from sincere hearts which are honest and frank with each other. This is not strange from sons of one homeland united and held together through one faith, Islam, which has brought us from darkness to light, has made brothers of people and has considered equality as the basis, without differentiating between one race or another. The prophet--may peace and prayers be on him--said: "People are equal like the teeth of a comb, there is no preference for an Arab to a non-Arab except in righteousness. All of you are from Adam and Adam was from dust."

Therefore, I ask you to agree to stop holding ceremonies and similar affairs because what is in hearts is bigger than ceremonies. Without cost, what should be done can be done. This is good for our faith and life to make poor people happy or to do acts of charity which will last forever. This is my wish and it will make me comfortable and happy and will spare us any ceremony of a temporary nature.

My brothers and sons. Be assured that I and my officials are very much concerned with your private and public interests. We are directly responsible for them in front of God and you and we will do our best at all times to do the duty we are required to do, relying on God and following the path of his honorable prophet--may God's peace and prayers be upon him--and the path of the caliphs after him. May God grant us to the right path.

CSO: 4400/159

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

BUDGET ISSUE--Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, has issued Decree No 1/83 on the state's 1983 general budget. The decree defined the budget as 5,460,258,000 riyals and expenses as 8,719,439,758 riyals. [Excerpt] [GF141217 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Jan 83]

CSO: 4400/159

# DEFECTORS ELABORATE ON SECRETS OF SOVIET COUP OPERATIONS

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German No 303 30 Dec 82 pp 3-4

[Reports by KGB Major Vladimir Kuzichkin and General Ghulam Sidiqi Miraki, former chief of the Afghan Secret Police]

[Text] The Coup Against Daoud

According to the secret police officer, Daoud himself, a cousin of the king, had come into power with the help of the communists on 17 July 1973. But, he says, in August 1978 Daoud turned against the party, jailed its leaders and planned for their execution. According to Kuzichkin, the Afghan communists got in touch with the Soviet embassy in Kabul and received promises of help. Thereafter, they "ordered a coup d'etat," in a manner of speaking, from their jail cells, which was successful.

These statements by the secret police officer defector are of importance because noted Western experts had thought the opposite was true and attempted, on the basis of various observations, to prove that that first coup had been an "intra-Afghan matter" involving the Afghan communists and princely President Daoud. The question to what extent the USSR had already at that time taken an active part in those events is of importance in judging the reasons for their subsequent actions.

Kuzichkin states that after the Afghan communists had taken over there was an internal debate in the USSR as to who should lead the new, now openly communist, regime. The KGB, he continued, then still headed by Andropov, was in favor of Babrak Karmal. There were two reasons for this: Karmal had been a long-time faithful KGB agent, and he was considered by his superiors to be a man who knew how to play a subtle political game. Brezhnev however was said to have favored Taraki, who was then the party's general secretary, whom he knew personally, while the KGB people considered him as given to temper tantrums and incapable of directing complex political processes. They also feared that Taraki was more subject to being influenced by his Afghan friends and fellow believers than by Soviet advisers.

## Amin's Rise

Subsequent events are well-known and are confirmed by Kuzichkin. Taraki was hated by the Afghans for initiating ill-considered and brutally executed



"reforms." Armed resistance against the communists in Kabul started as early as May 1978, and the Afghan air force flew its first bombing runs at that time against its fellow countrymen in the Kunar Valley.

Hafizullah Amin, one of the organizers of the coup against Daoud, gained increasing power status in Taraki's shadow due to the fact that both of them, members of the Khalq faction of the party, managed to neutralize politicians and military members of the opposing Parcham group, by either sending them into exile (as they did with Babrak Karmal by making him the envoy to Prague) or by jailing them, as they did to Colonel Abdul Kader, the chief military organizer of the coup against Daoud. In March 1979 Amin became prime minister.

According to the major, the KGB never trusted Amin, one of the reasons being that he had been partly educated in the United States. There were said to be suspicions that he had connections with the CIA; however, they were never proven. However, says the major, Brezhnev and his Politburo trusted Amin despite the misgivings of the secret police. Taraki was invited to Moscow (on 10 September 1979, following the conference of nonaligned nations in Havana) and Brezhnev was said to have secretly agreed with Amin that upon Taraki's return the latter would be deposed.

#### Congratulations and an Attempt at Poisoning

Amin's attempt to remove Taraki from power--and vice versa--resulted in gunfire in the presidential palace and a fatal injury of the Afghan president on 14 September 1979. Four days later Amin received Moscow's congratulations on heading the government. But Hafizullah Amin proved to be a bloody tyrant who by his brutal persecutions--some directed against his fellow party members of the Parcham faction--increasingly incited resistance against Kabul's communist regime. (Horrible examples from that period are given in great detail in a special issue of LES TEMPS MODERNES, Paris, July/August 1980, No 408/409.) The rebels outraged Moscow by treating any Soviet advisors that they could get their hands on in a manner similar to that used by Amin against his political prisoners. The Kremlin then apparently decided to get rid of Amin. An agent who assumed Afghan identity and worked as Amin's personal cook was said to have been given the task of poisoning him. But that endeavor was said to have come to naught as a result of Amin's vigilance.

#### Attack on the Presidential Palace

Thereupon, Kuzichkin continues, it was decided to storm the palace of the Afghan president with the help of Soviet troops. The defector described the operation in great detail: it was carried out by several hundred Soviet soldiers and a commando of KGB agents specially trained for the occasion. The man in charge was Colonel Bayerenov, chief of the USSR terrorist training school. The order was given not to take prisoners and to kill anyone trying to escape. The attackers had followed that rule even prior to the attack on the palace, when Afghan troops, who would have become aware of the identity of attackers dressed in Afghan uniforms, were massacred. Later on Colonel Bayerenov apparently became a victim of his own orders when, wearing an Afghan uniform, he stood in the gate after the palace had been secured to call for

reinforcements: he was killed by his own people. This happened on 25 December 1979. The base of operations for the Soviet attack was Kabul airport, "where the Russians had already established a fairly large garrison during the preceding weeks."

#### Soviet Miscalculations

Babrak Karmal was then brought from Europe to Moscow and agreed to become president of Afghanistan and officially to request military support from the USSR. However, even before he made his official request, tens of thousands of soldiers had already entered Afghanistan. The major gives as a reason for that Soviet action the fact that the USSR was afraid that the Islamic revolution in Afghanistan might be sufficiently successful to "throw the USSR out." The Politburo was going to demonstrate that the USSR would not stand for this.

In the defector's opinion, the Russians then made two major mistakes: they overestimated the Afghan troops' operational readiness and underestimated the guerrillas' willingness to fight. Russian plans merely called for the Soviet troops to be a backup for the Afghan army. The latter was supposed to do the real dirty work of quelling the rebellion. Realizing that the Afghans would not be equal to the task, a request was made for "at least double the barely 100,000 soldiers." But this, according to the secret police officer, was disapproved by the Politburo because it was worried about the West's reaction. That is how the present checkmate situation in Afghanistan began.

The major also confirmed the observation made during the early days of the occupation by the Afghans, according to which initially only Central Asian troops from USSR border republics had been sent to Afghanistan. However, they later on had to be replaced with troops from the Soviet Union, because the Central Asians (many of whom spoke the same language) got too friendly with the local population. Among other things, they bought copies of the Koran. A Koran printed in Arabic, available in Pakistan and Afghanistan for a few [Swiss] francs, is considered a curiosity in the Central Asian Republics of the USSR and is said to command prices of up to \$50.00.

#### Supplemental Information from General Miraki

A second defector has partly confirmed the Soviet secret police major's statements and partly brought them up to date. The man in question is Ghulam Sidiqi Miraki, former general and chief of the Afghan secret police, whose flight to Peshawar had been reported in December. He confirmed the differences between the Politburo and the KGB in evaluating the situation and personalities in Afghanistan. He added that Kosygin too had sided with the KGB.

Among new revelations by the Afghan secret police chief was a plan under which Babrak Karmal was to have initiated peoples' and tribal assemblies so as to give his regime a greater air of legitimacy. Next he was to have made a declaration that Afghanistan was in great danger and that the borders toward the south would have to be closed. Thereupon the Russians were to have been called upon to enter the country in great numbers so as "to save it." The

final outcome of this process was to have been a takeover. However, this plan was alleged to have failed even in its first phase because the grave tensions within the Afghan party did not permit the calling of mass assemblies for the benefit of Parcham member Karmal. The first tribal assemblies had however indeed taken place in 1981.

#### Partial Annexation?

The Afghan general reported that a new plan had been developed. It would provide that the nine northern Afghan provinces would be completely taken over by the Soviets, administered and "pacified" by them, while the southern provinces were to be left under the Kabul regime. At the time of Brezhnev's death, this plan was still on the boards. The general, who spoke to reporters in Peshawar, emphasized the fact that these plans were not rumors, but facts confirmed by two independent sources. One of those sources was a Soviet opposite number of his of Central Asian origin, who was dissatisfied with those plans. The other was a group of Afghan officers of the Khalq faction which today constitutes a quasi-opposition within the Afghan communist party.

The statements of those two officers indicate that Afghanistan could expect "pacification" and therefore full occupation by the USSR to a much greater extent than at present if the West should forget the country and its struggle and if the subject of Afghanistan lost interest as being a constant repetition of "resistance and oppression routines."

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CSO: 4620/12

MINISTER OUTLINES PLANS FOR LAND, WATER REFORMS

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 25 Dec 82 pp 1, 4

[Interview with 'Abdul Ghaffar Lakanwal, minister of agriculture and land reform]

[Text]

KABUL, December 25 (Bakhtar).— Following is the full text of an interview by Abdul Ghaffar Lakanwal, Agriculture and Land Reforms Minister, with the Bakhtar Information Agency on democratic land and water reforms:

Question: Please explain the policy and the objectives of the current phase of the democratic land and water reforms?

Answer: The land reforms policy of the PDPA and the revolutionary state of Afghanistan is based on the principle that possibilities can be provided for the growth and development of the productive forces, transformation in the form of landownership and the use of land in the interest of peasants and the working people and finally for fundamental changes in villages and rural areas only through the complete annihilation of feudal relations which are the most important dimensions of agricultural policy of the People's

Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the state of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Limitations on the landownership of big landlords and distribution of land to landless peasants and small holders of land including the provision of material and technical assistance along with the strengthening of the cooperative movement in the rural areas with the voluntary participation of peasants in agricultural cooperatives, solution of the irrigation problem and the effective and just distribution of water in villages, establishment of large mechanised units of agricultural production by using the gains of contemporary science and techniques constitute the most important dimensions of agricultural policy in the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the state of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and are being considered as valuable goals set for the democratic

solution of the question of land and the fast development of agriculture in the country.

The major aims of the implementation of land and water reforms at the present phase are as follows:

—Eradication of feudal vestiges in the socio-economic life of the peasants and ensuring of social justice and legality in affairs of distribution and utilisation of land, water and the sale proceeds of agricultural production.

—Creation of suitable conditions for the effective and reasonable utilisation of land, the growth of agricultural productive forces, the consolidation of the technical and material foundation as well as utilization of the progress of science and progressive experience.

—Rendering of material and technical aid to the owners of land and first of all to those peasants who have become the owners of land in the course of the implementation of land reforms.

—Assistance to the formation of agricultural cooperatives, normalisation and expansion of their productive activity, and transfer and sale of agricultural products in accord with the principle of justice.

—Accomplishment of constructional and repair work of the irrigation systems, roads, schools, hospitals and other public welfare projects.

—Strengthening of solidarity and unity of peasants with workers and other strata of the people of the Democratic Republic of

Afghanistan in the framework of National Fatherland Front, the creation of ever more favourable conditions for the unity and the elevation of peasants' knowledge and their social activity.

All organs, party and state organisations and all illustrious people of Afghanistan, especially the peasants, will be taking active part in the realisation of this great humane objectives.

Q: In the light of the policy of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, what are the rights and privileges of landless peasants, small holders of land, agricultural workers and nomads who have received or will receive land under the programme of land reforms?

A: The landless peasants, those with negligible holdings, agricultural workers and nomads who have received or will receive land under the land reforms programme have the following rights and privileges:

They can cultivate land in the interest of their own and the members of their family. They can receive credit from the branch offices of the Agricultural Development Bank for their cultivation and have priority right in this regard. They can obtain on a credit basis fertilisers, seeds, insecticides and pesticides, agricultural machines and tools and other necessary things from banks and concerned agricultural enterprises

and have a priority right in this connection. They can become members of agricultural cooperatives and use their social and economic benefits. They are free to sell their produce either themselves or through agricultural cooperatives in the open market or to the organisations and firms at a reasonable price. They are free to make a claim against a person or organisation to courts or the concerned organs for the guarantee and obtaining of their established rights.

Their social and economic security is guaranteed by the party and state and, in the event of a direct threat by the enemies, they can form civil defence organisations in their villages and areas of their land-ownership.

They have priority right in receiving technical and material assistance for the development of land and water from the state organs and organisations. The right of the transfer of the distributed land to those members of his family who work on the land is preserved after the death of the deserving person. They have the right to receive free of charge up to two hectares of state lands or the same amount of excess land of a neighbour which may not be needed by the latter provided that they would develop such land and make it cultivable.

Further, they can receive on payment of a reasonable price and on credit under the provision of the law on regulation of land-ownership and the regulati-



ons no. 1 and no. 2 upto six hectares of first class land.

Q. Please give information regarding the programme of the present phase of water and land reforms to enable our people understand how much the process of the democratic land reforms has progressed and the cooperation of the people in this regard.

A: Prior to the beginning of implementation of water and land reforms throughout the country at the level of village, district and province, it was indispensable to collect adequate information on all questions of landownership affairs which had not been done in the preceding phase of the land reforms and to evaluate them precisely. It was essential in order to get a clear picture of the land relations in villages and to use them extensively in the ensuing implementation of land and water reforms. For this purpose, the first operational plan was formulated and put into practice in 21 provinces of the country and two districts. With the full implementation of this plan, information will be on hand on the really distributed land, the category of land, allocation of water rights, the current status of distributed land and the possession of distributed land deeds at the level of every village, district and province. Apart from this, data will be collected on landholders owning land in excess of ceiling, the area of abandoned land and distributable land.

So far, 58,978 peasants who have already received land and 10,689 landholders owning land in excess of the ceiling have been assessed. After the unification of the appraisal results, the collected information will be put at the disposal of all organs and party and state organisations to use them in the continuation of the implementation of land reforms in the localities. But it should be said that, on the basis of preliminary investigations, still there are about 350,000 'jeribs' of land (about 70,000 hectares) available which can be distributed among 70,000 landless peasants and small holders.

After completion of the appraisal in one district, the programme of practical measures for correcting the mistakes of the first phase of land reforms, just consideration of the legal disputes of the areas of landownership, the distribution of land, the allotment of water between peasants and poor nomads, setting up of peasants' cooperatives and state farms and distribution of the title deeds of lands, ownership to peasants and landholders will be implemented.

The second operational plan constitutes the most important part of the programme of water and land democratic reforms in the country. With its successful accomplishment, the management and administration of landownership affairs will be rescued from the domination of feudal relations, and land and water

will belong to peasants. Official title deeds of land ownership will be distributed to all landholders and peasants in order to guarantee the legal ownership rights of the landholders on their possessing lands in accord with Article 19 of the Fundamental Principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and to enable them to take actions in buying and selling, legacy and other transfers.

### MAJOR TASK

The second operational plan of the land reform is already continuing in 15 provinces and 27 operational groups have been sent there.

But, it should be pointed out that the implementation of the plans of land reforms and water including the second operational plan is one of the major tasks of all organisations, local party and state organs and all national patriotic forces of the country which are being implemented with the active participation of peasantry in the process of land reforms.

In order to implement the land and water reforms in a democratic way, the participation of peasantry is considered necessary. For this purpose, over 200 revolutionary committees of peasants in which, besides the peasants, the representatives of social and party organisations, tribes and nationalities, and religious leaders are also included, have been formed so far for pricing, distributi-

on of land and formulation of title deeds of landownership. Similarly, over 300 peasant committees with water distributors and managers have been formed by peasants and landowners. Thus, it can be said that the implementation of land and water reforms have begun in these localities with the support and active participation of the people.

The third operational plan has begun at present in three districts of Kabul in order to provide material, technical and financial assistance to peasants and their mobilisation in the peasantry cooperatives and their unions. This will be carried out throughout the country within the financial means.

The specific aims of the operation plan include the provision, transfer, storage and distribution of material aids such as fertilisers, improved seeds, insecticides and pesticides, machines and agricultural implements for raising the productive capacity of peasants and effective utilisation of water resources and land. It also includes the provision of technical services for agricultural extension, mechanisation of agriculture, repair of agricultural machinery and provision of transport services for carrying agricultural materials and implements and provision of favourable markets for the sale of agricultural products, bringing about reforms, activation and raising of the efficacy of the existing peasant cooperatives, formation

of new agricultural cooperatives and unions of peasantry cooperatives and the establishment of mechanised farming stations for the extension of modern farming and cultivation in the country, and providing and distribution of agricultural credits to peasants and cooperatives.

In three districts of Kabul, namely, Bagrami, Desabz and Charasiab, 42,049 'jeribs' (over 8,000 hectares) of land have been ploughed and made ready for cultivation so far with the tractors of mechanised farming stations under this plan.

Similarly, about two thousands tons of chemical fertilisers and about five hundred tons of improved seeds have been provided to farmers in these districts. Credits of an aggregate amount of over Afs 8.9 millions have been extended to the farmers under this plan by the Agricultural Development Bank. In addition, insecticides and pesticides costing over Afs million, have also been distributed.

The repair and construction work on the irrigation networks, roads, schools, hospitals and other public utility projects have already begun in three districts of Kabul under the fourth operational plan.

I would like to reiterate that peasants and noble people of our country play a major role in carrying out these plans and support them.

Q: Please explain the importance of the complete implementation of democ-



ratic water and land reforms for economic and social life of peasants and the growth of the national economy.

A: Without doubt, fundamental changes will be brought about in the socio-economic situation of peasants and all the working people with the successful implementation of the current phase of water and land reforms. All peasants and landholders will obtain official ownership deeds and will engage confidently in the farming activities. Taking advantage of the material, technical and financial assistance rendered by the state, they will raise the agricultural yields. Authentic data on land-ownership will come out from the implementation of this programme. These data will be effectively used in the preparation and projection of socio-economic development plans even at the level of a village, district and province.

The question of water will be solved along with other questions of land-ownership and the distress and disputes arising from the question of land and water will also be settled and instead an atmosphere of friendship and fraternity will be strengthened among the working people. With the accomplishment of the

constructional affairs of infrastructural establishments in the villages, the present condition of the villages will be totally changed in the qualitative respect. According to the new relations, all questions pertaining to the village will be reformed from the foundation.

It should be added that, with the execution of these plans, feudalism and its land relations will be changed and gradually shattered, providing the ground for new, just relations which will not hamper the growth and development of the national economy of the country. The material and technological foundation of the revolution will be further strengthened and the standard of living of the working people will be raised.

It should be said that the enemies of the Saur Revolution and the enemies of our people attempt to prevent the fulfilment of these plans so that our people will not enjoy well-being and prosperous life.

But, with the support of the broad masses of the peasants, the programme of democratic land and water reforms will be successfully implemented in the course of a few years.

MINISTER SAYS FOREIGN POLICY SERVES PEOPLE'S INTERESTS

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 21, 22 Dec pp 1, 4

[Speech by Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Mohammad Dost--two parts]

[Text]

Following is the text of a telecast speech of Shah Mohammad Dost, Member of the PDPA CC and Foreign Affairs Minister:

The national-democratic Saur Revolution is the law-governed outcome of the long, consistent and arduous struggle waged by the working people of our beloved country, Afghanistan, for breaking the shackles of slavery and freeing themselves from the yoke of the tyranny of feudal lords, usurers, compradores, tribal chieftains and decadent bureaucrats and for eliminating the ages-old backwardness. The victory of the revolution gave our country objective possibilities for real material and cultural reconstruction and led the misery-stricken and the toiling people of our country onto the bright and glittering path of social progress.

The revolution ended in all aspects the dependence of our country on imperialism in the spheres of foreign policy and international relations. The foreign policy of our country is no longer confined to the narrow circle of the class interests of a handful of exploiters and traitors to the country, but is determined on the basis of the supreme interests of the noble working people of Afghanistan, and the principles of national independence, friendship between the peoples and positive and active nonalignment. It is because the new system in our country which is the direct product of the national-democratic revolution in our country reflects the historical position of the big social forces, namely the working class, peasantry, the revolutionary intelligentsia, the patriotic and

progressive clergy of the nationalities and tribes. Therefore, the foreign policy of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the state of the DRA expressly reflect the supreme interests and considerations of all the working people of our country.

The main principle of the foreign policy of the PDPA and the DRA lies as stressed in the report of respected Comrade Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and President of the Revolutionary Council, in unshakeable will and consistent action for the defence of the consolidation of peace in the region and throughout and these constitute the main direction of the approach of our revolutionary party and state towards international affairs. This determines the character of our foreign policy.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the state of the DRA profoundly believe, in the context of formulating the principles of foreign policy and regulating activity in this sphere, that the national sovereignty and independence, and social progress and prosperity of the working people of Afghanistan can be ensured only through the perpetual development and consolidation of the relations of brotherly friendship and beneficial and selfless relations with the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries and with all the progressive forces of the world. The consolidation of relations of friendship with the Soviet state, founded by V. I. Lenin, is one of the prestigious principles of the foreign policy of the PDPA and the state of the DRA and the fundamental factor in the defence of the major gains of the Saur Revolution and its new, evolutionary phase.

### GROWING TIES

The relations of the DRA with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which have passed the test of time, have been growing, expanding and strengthening all-sidedly relations with the Soviet Union have progressed to the status of our traditional national policy.

The victory of the Saur Revolution and especially its new, evolutionary phase has raised these relations

to the highest stage of their qualitative development.

Respected Comrade Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, dwelt in his historical speech at the Ninth Plenum of the PDPA CC on the relations of our country with the Soviet Union.

Especially, we want to stress the importance of the whole complex of relations with the Soviet Union, which are successfully expanding and developing in all spheres, that is, political, commercial, economic, scientific, technical, cultural and other fields.

The DRA and the USSR closely cooperate in the sessions of the UN General Assembly and all other international meetings and harmonize their actions in the context of the solution of the situation around Afghanistan and consolidation of peace and security in the region and the Middle East and South East Asia.

The growing and strengthening relations between the PDPA and the CPSU are the most important element of Afghan-Soviet relations.

On behalf of the PDPA, the Revolutionary Council and the Government of the DRA and all the people of Afghanistan, we express our profound and sincere

gratitude to the CPSU and the Soviet Government for their all-sided assistance and extensive support for the DRA. This assistance will always remain in the grateful memory of all the patriots of Afghanistan as a shining example of fraternal internationalist solidarity.

The signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Goodneighbourliness between our two countries and the official visits of esteemed Comrade Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and President of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, and the high-level party and state delegations to the Soviet Union have imparted new dimensions to the long-standing historical relations between our countries.

Our revolutionary party and state have consistently and unswervingly attached great importance to the deepening and expansion of relations with brotherly Socialist countries and treat their great historical experiences in the building of new society and international relations as very important, the further all-sided development of relations with Socialist countries in all spheres is a necessary precondition for the advance of our country on the road of social progress and development.

(To be continued)

The relations of the DRA with other brotherly Socialist countries have grown and developed all-sidedly. The friendly and official visits of esteemed Comrade Babrak Karmal to the brotherly countries of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Hungarian People's Republic, and the signing of agreements on friendship and cooperation with these countries have played a valuable role in further expanding fraternal relations between our states and have promoted these relations to a new, qualitative stage. Similarly, we have friendly relations with the countries with Socialist orientation which are developing with every passing day.

Our relations with the great state of India have always been friendly and based on sincerity. Our friendship with India has deep roots in the ancient history extending till today. We attach great importance to further development of relations and cooperation between our two countries and deeply believe that these relations are in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and play a great role in the establishment of peace and tranquillity in the region and the world.

In the foreign policy of our country, serious observance of the principles and Charter of the United Nations Organisation has a place of pride and, proceeding from this, we have founded our relations with all countries, irrespective of their socio-political system

on the basis of the principles of respect for sovereignty and national independence, equality of rights, and non-interference in each other's affairs and are developing and expanding them.

Our revolutionary party and state will pool their endeavours with all peace-loving states in their common struggle for the cause of peace, detente, disarmament, ending of the arms race and the liquidation of nuclear weapons of mass annihilation, for democracy and social progress and against the forces of imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism, hegemonism, Zionism, racism, apartheid, aggression and war.

The stipulations of the Programme of Action of the PDPA in the sphere of foreign policy are based on the principles which our revolutionary party and state are putting into practice. These principles, which have successfully passed the test of time and whose validity has been clearly proved by life itself, are the principles of peaceful co-existence, between states having different socio-political systems, the policy of positive and active non-alignment, internationalist solidarity and friendship with the great country of Soviets and other countries, members of the Socialist Community. In its approach to international problems, our party proceeds from these very problems. It is exactly on this basis that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is continuing its efforts for the solution of the problems of the

region, displaying flexibility, realism and a concrete approach to the situation around Afghanistan. We profoundly believe that our foreign policy accords completely with the interests of the peoples of the region and the ensuring of a durable peace throughout the world.

Our revolutionary party and state are endeavouring indefatigably and unswervingly for the consolidation of the unity of the three revolutionary forces of our time, the world system of socialism led by the Soviet Union, the world working class movement and the national liberation movement of the three continents of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The foreign policy of the PDPA and the state of the DRA enjoys great prestige on the international plane. The plots of international imperialism, headed by the US imperialism, Chinese hegemonism and all circles of international reaction, aimed at dismembering and isolating the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have ended in a fiasco. Our country has presently diplomatic relations with more than 60 countries of the world and more importantly, the people of the world are increasingly realising the nature of the criminal, anti-peace and aggressive policies of the imperialism and its diverse allies.

The state of the DRA and the working people of our beloved country have been paying serious attention to improving relations with the Islamic co-



untries and will endeavour to develop relations with them in the interests of the Muslim peoples of Asia and Africa, the world peace and the progress of mankind.

Unfortunately, we see that the military Government of Pakistan, in disregard of the accepted norms and laws of international relations and in opposition to the will and wishes of overwhelming majority of the people of that country, and displaying no inclination towards the process of easing tensions, ensuring a durable peace and the establishment of good neighbourly relations, has closed its eyes to the realities in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and consequently has not wished or been able to normalise its relations with the DRA.

The interferences, including armed interventions, continue from the territory of Pakistan against the DRA. The undeclared war of imperialism and reaction against our country, the conductors of which must become convinced of their failure and complete defeat, has acquired new dimensions. The international imperialism and in their van the US imperialist have not abandoned their efforts for making use of the so-called problem of Afghanistan for intensifying international tensions.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, supporting the principle of good-neighbourliness has always tried to maintain normal and friendly relations with the neighbouring countries. It is in consideration of this

principle, on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and in observance of the principles of UN Charter prohibiting the use of force or threat of force in international relations that the DRA has sought to solve the disputed problems through peaceful political negotiations.

For ensuring the success of this mission, the DRA took major historical initiatives. Thus the proposals of May 14, 1980, and August 24, 1981, in which the demand for talks and the means and methods of arriving at a settlement of the problems around Afghanistan have been laid down in a concrete, flexible and realistic form, are the outstanding examples of the sincerity of the DRA. We profoundly believe that the problems of the region can be solved on the basis of the proposals of August 24, 1981, in the interests of the peoples of the countries in the region and peace in the region and the world.

The DRA, preserving its principled stand, has shown necessary flexibility on its part in the process of arriving at a solution of the problems around Afghanistan. We have declared repeatedly and once again declare that we are desirous of normalising and even making friendly our relations with our neighbours, Iran and Pakistan, on the basis of goodwill, reason and common sense, and through constructive talks. Our country has spared and will spare no efforts in this direction.

Esteemed Comrade Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, noted in his historical statement at the Ninth Plenum of the PDPA CC: "We will continue consistently and determinedly our efforts for a political solution of the situation around Afghanistan and normalising relations with the neighbouring countries."

We have repeatedly made constructive and useful proposals which take into account the interests of our country as well as the interests of others. In the recent talks between the Foreign Ministers of the DRA and Pakistan in Geneva, through the representative of UN Secretary General we participated with useful proposals. The talks showed that there exist grounds for achieving agreements acceptable to both sides on the whole complex of issues related to a comprehensive political settlement and that only goodwill and understanding were needed to resolve the existing differences. We are prepared, as far as it concerns the DRA, to go half way in order to improve the conditions in the region and normalize relations with Pakistan and Iran.

We hope those at the helm of affairs in our neighbouring countries will display reciprocal goodwill as regards the solution of the problems of the region because the continuation of the existing state of affairs cannot accord with the the process of peace in our region and the world.

DEATH OF SOVIET MOSLEM NOTABLE LAMENTED

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 25 Dec 82 p 4

[Text]

KABUL, December 25 (Bakhtar)— The Bakhtar Information Agency has received with regret the sad news of the death of Ziauddin Ibn Ishan Babakhan, an eminent religious and public figure.

He died in Tashkent (Soviet Central Asia) on December 22 night after a grave illness.

He was aged 74.

Since 1957, Babakhan had been heading the Moslem Board of Central Asia and Kazakhstan.

Not long before his death he had left the post for the reasons of poor health and had been elected Chairman of the Council of the Moslem Board.

The religious figure from Uzbekistan was known in the Muslim world as a brilliantly educated theologian. He devoted much effort in his career, which began over 50 years ago, to public and peace-making work.

He was among the initiators of all international interdenominational religious conference held in the Soviet Union in the past years.

Babakhan attended many religious conferences abroad discussing the problem of safeguarding peace. The international Islamic Conference to mark the advent of the 15th century of Hejira was held in Tashkent at his initiative and with his active participation. The motto of the conference was "The century of Hejira should become a century of peace and friendship among nations."

He was awarded Soviet state distinctions, including the Orders of a number of Arab states and the Peace Champion Gold Medal.

Babakhan was laid to rest on Thursday beside his father in the wall of the ancient mausoleum of Imam Abu-Bakar Kaffal-Shashi.

# GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMS 'FREEDOM OF ISLAM' POLICY

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 28 Dec 82 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Nawlawi 'Abdul Wali Hojat, general president of the Islamic Affairs Department]

[Text]

KABUL, December 28 (Bakhtar)— Mawlawi Abdul Wali Hojat, general president of the Islamic affairs department, has reaffirmed that the DRA Government is "the representative of the will of workers, peasants and other working people of the country."

In an interview to the Bakhtar Information Agency on the Government's policy on the sacred religion of Islam and freedom of religion, Mawlawi Hojat said: "It safeguards the rights and interests of the majority of the poor people and, keeping in view the ensurance of social and economic justice according to the values of religion, regulations and charter of the United Nations and declaration of human rights, makes endeavours to guide the society towards progress, social development and civilization according to the need of our time."

"In accordance with the Fundamental Principles of the DRA, which constitutes the provisional Constitution of the country, respect and support for the sacred religion of Islam is necessary and freedom of belief, thought and speech, are considered as undoubted rights, of every man in the country" he pointed out.

"Studies on the basis of sacred religion of Islam and experience in some other Islamic countries such as the Yemen Democratic Republic, Algeria, Libya, Syria and others, show that there is no repugnance and contradiction between positive revolutionary transformations and the contents of the sacred religion of Islam, because Islam seeks economic equality and social justice, annihilation of class differences, ambition, impetuosity and pride, and it accepts the dignity of the



human being as righteous. It is pointed out in 'holy Koran' that those people who hoard gold and silver and do not use them in the way accepted by God's should be informed with regret that they would be punished," he noted.

Hojat added: "It can be obviously observed that collection of capital and property, if that results in public detriment, was and is forbidden. And, it is consonant with the policy of the DRA that it is endeavouring to ensure justice, equality and brotherhood in the country so that the working people of our homeland may be free from the yoke of exploitation and oppression and can work according to their talents and get appropriate wages according to their work."

"Therefore, we can say that there is harmony between the wishes, objectives and aspirations of the Government and the directives and orders of the sacred religion of Islam and both of them seek the welfare, goodness and improvement of the people according to the fundamentals of unity, friendship, cooperation, philanthropy and solidarity and to move towards material and mental progress with the caravan of mankind and reach their destination."

Answering a question on the role of his department in improving the management of the activities of the country's religious figures, Hojat said: "A unified Islamic affairs department was formed in the first session of the High Council of the Ulema, and Religious Figures according to the wise directives of the Government in order to make dynamic the activities of religious activities in the country. The ulema and religious figures and honest and patriotic personalities are members of the department. Then, the department established publicity centres in the provinces."

"The effective publicity activities through radio-TV, dailies, weeklies and the 'Payam Haq', which have reflected of the reality of the valuable and revolutionary part of the religious figures, have caused the regular, consistent and valuable participation of the preachers and Imams in this tasks", he said.

"The honest ulema and religious figures of the country have played an effective role in implementing the regulations of the department to publicize national morality, the religious reality, the issues of rights, attraction of nationalities and religious people and to prevent

moral depravity contrary to the customs, and outstanding national traditions and to consolidate the unity and solidarity of the vast masses of people towards construction of a prosperous life void of any oppression, poverty, cruelty, in their speeches through conferences, radio-TV, the 'Payam Haq' magazine, in the functions and mosques", he said.

"From the beginning of 1360 HS (1981), an authorized scientific and religious delegation including ulema and religious figures was assigned to identify the needs of mosques, preachers and Imams of the whole country and to survey the needs for the construction, repair and furniture and other parts of mosques. As a result, 48 mosques, which did not have imams and need the financial aid of the Government were identified as official mosques to while the Government renders assistance", Hojat pointed out.

"In order to ensure the freedom for religious ceremonies and rituals, for the religious people of the country, the department has spent over Afs 2,300,000 for the improvement of mosques, the new establishments for worship

and 'takia' and religious 'madrasas' according to the wise directives of the Government", he added.

"A large number of ulema, religious figures, preachers, imams of the mosques and 'qaris' from the capital and provinces, participated in a conference on Koran recitation which was held in Saratan last year that coincided with the first year of the fifteenth century of Hijrat, and which was another step towards the respect for the fundamentals of religion of the country's people. And, the recitation was held in a fully free atmosphere", he recalled.

"During the month of holy Ramadan, the department completed holy Koran recitation in over 200 mosques in Kabul city and in thousands of mosques in the provinces and presented gifts and awards and candies to the 'qaris", he noted.

"The Omra pilgrimage and the visit to Karbala are arranged department some months before the pilgrimage season every year and it provides facilities for the return of the 'hajis' and renders other facilities for the visitors", Hojat said.

UNDERSECRETARY COMMENTS ON BORDER ISSUE, POW EXCHANGE

GF181350 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 5 Jan 83 p 2

[Exclusive interview with 'Abbas Akhundi, political and social undersecretary of the Interior Ministry--date, place not given]

[Excerpts] In answer to a question concerning the trip by the interior minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Pakistan and the subjects discussed as well as the question of security of our eastern borders, Mr Akhundi said: Some decisions have been taken concerning the security of the borders which mostly are in the shape of coordination of all the law enforcement agencies at the border areas. One part of our borders is in the war zone due to the imposed war with Iraq. Other parts of our borders are involved with the Kordestan issue and the problems of the West.

Thanks to God, all other borders are stable. It has been decided that the law enforcement agencies will act in a coordinated manner at the border areas in order to avoid any disorganized action. This is at the Foreign Ministry level and will also be discussed at the Interior Ministry level. Following the appointment of Colonel Kuchakzadeh, the conditions in the gendarmerie have improved and positive changes have been taking place.

We have some plans for the protection of the borders. As you know the question of law enforcement outside city limits falls under the jurisdiction of the gendarmerie which includes the security of everything outside the cities. As far as the police is concerned, when His Excellency Mr Nateq-Nuri was appointed the interior minister, he also took over the command of the law enforcement agencies. One of the changes made in the police was the coordination of the police with the committees and the guards in order for them to coordinate with the city law enforcement agencies. In order to make the police more active against the counterrevolution in the cities, two brother guards were appointed as Mr Hejazi's deputies. This boosted the morale of the brother police and made them feel a part of the law enforcement organizations.

Referring to repeated Iraqi blockage of the plan to exchange the families of POWs, he said: The last proposal by the Iraqi regime was to exchange the families of POWs via France and as you know the majority of the enemies of the Islamic Republic are gathered there and therefore such a proposal is

not acceptable by us. Iraq is trying to achieve a political victory, especially due to its close ties with France and reap the benefits. It is scared that the torture it has subjected the Iranian POWs to will be revealed and again ring the bell of Iraq's dishonor. Our last proposal was the exchange of families through the International Red Cross which is an internationally accepted organization but Iraq has not yet given its proper answer.

He added: From the moment that an Iranian fighter is captured by the Iraqis he is treated against all international laws by the lackeys of this regime. They torture or execute many of the prisoners or force them into labor and put pressure on them through their food and accommodation.

In answer to a question about the Afghan issue and the plans for refugees in the Islamic Republic, he said: There is over one and one-half million Afghan refugees living in our country. Yet considering the Islamic belief in kindness they have a good life here. There are programs in progress which will supply all Afghans who are prepared to fill in the necessary forms, put at their disposal, with all their essentials. This project is in its last stages. Following the official announcement by the Interior Ministry the Afghans will have to contact governor generals' offices.

He added: The Afghans have been the target of the aggression of one of the superpowers. Afghanistan has been occupied and its people are acting against the puppet regime. They held a demonstration in Tehran in this connection. We will of course deal with those Afghans who did not heed the regulations of the Islamic Republic and attacked the Soviet Embassy. It is not acceptable for a group to be active in the Islamic Republic and then break its laws.

The Afghans must realize that such acts are neither beneficial to Islam nor to Afghanistan. The Afghans themselves must stop those who do not respect the laws of the Islamic Republic. We will stop those who do not respect our regulations.

With respect to Afghan camps I would like to say that some camps have been allocated to those Afghans who are entering Iran for the first time. We have no problem with the refugees and with respect to those seeking asylum, I want to say that anyone seeking asylum in the Islamic Republic against an oppressive occupying force will be welcomed.

It seems that the Soviet Embassy has recently raised complaints about this issue. However, the claim that the Afghans entered the Soviet Embassy and burned their flag is a blatant lie and the police stopped any attacks against the Soviet Embassy.

Mr Akhundi commented on the issue of national security: Thank God that security and government political stability are present throughout the country. The number of successful assassinations in Tehran during the past month did not exceed the number of fingers on one hand and the last order by the hypocrites' [Mojahedin-e Khalq] headquarters to their personnel

has been to escape from Iran and join their masters. In this respect people have taxed the hypocrites to their limits and the country is safe for the population and unsafe for the counterrevolution. This is a transgression on my side but when I accompanied the governor generals to see the imam he asked why the mass media is not praising such efforts.

Mr Akhundi added: I think that all the newspapers, radio and the television must have a section about the security in the country. The country is completely secure and the minigroups have lost all hope and have realized that they cannot stand up to such people and this government. With the complete presence of the people on the scene and the actions of the law enforcement agencies, mobilization, guards and the mass media, the counter-revolution has been sent packing.

CSO: 4600/204

'IRNA' COMMENTATOR ON EGYPT-ARAB RAPPROCHEMENT

GF141742 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Tehran, 14 Jan (IRNA)--The Arabic daily AL-NADWAH published in Mecca said this week that Baghdad's rapprochement with Cairo is taking place with a faster tempo than reasonably expected. It said Saddam Husayn's cordial move to Cairo also proves his eventual endorsement of the Camp David agreement which has long been the principal cause of division among the Arab nations. The paper said even though Baghdad may have been prompted by good intention in so doing, Saddam Husayn was not allowed to do so without the authorisation of the Arab League, especially because decision for severance of relations with Cairo had been made by an Arab summit in Cairo. AL-NADWAH said also that the meeting this week between the Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq-'Aziz with the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Butrus Ghali, was not unexpected and that Baghdad had long since shown a willingness for such a meeting. The following are comments from our own commentator on the issue.

Saudi press observed a total silence for sometime since Baghdad sent cordial gestures towards Cairo for improved relations and since Saddam Husayn implied a need for recognising the Zionist regime and guaranteeing its security by the Arab governments. Lately they have ventured to ponder on the development.

The Saudi press have indicated that the need for Baghdad-Cairo rapprochement had long been felt, but that Cairo should now be brought back to the Arab fold discreetly and tactfully in order to prevent a backfire among the Arab peoples. Despite their apparent frowning and their denouncement of the Camp David agreement, the reactionary governments have never been really against the prescriptive peace plan for the Mid East by Washington, and Camp David would never have taken shape without the backstairs endorsement of the Saudi Government and certain other heads of Arab governments. But from the outset there was an implicit understanding between Washington and the reactionary Arab governments for the timing of Cairo's return to the Arab fold, whereby they had agreed to reconcile the hard-line Arab leaders with Cairo only after they had somehow manipulated public opinion in the Arab world and swayed mass sentiments a little toward Cairo.



The editorial in the Arabic daily AL-NADWAH indicates almost openly that in his bid for renewing friendship with Cairo, Saddam Husayn has got ahead of the Saudi Government. Whether this barefaced betrayal of principles by Saddam Husayn will be followed next by similar gestures from the Saudis and whether each of the two states will try to outrival the other in conciliating with the Zionist regime and in promoting the Western interest in the Mid East is not hard to guess.

CSO: 4600/204

ISLAMIC NEWSPAPER IN EGYPT ATTACKED

GF180617 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 17 Jan 83

[From "The Movement of the Oppressed Is Bearing Its Fruits" program]

[Text] The ruffian regime in Egypt is faced with the gradually increasing opposition of that country's Muslim people. This stems from the fact that while this regime is crushing the Muslims mercilessly on the one hand, on the other it is trying and sentencing the most active resisters to imprisonment or to death. Apart from this it is also resorting to new moves.

After failing to crush and to force the struggling Muslim Egyptian people to yield to the despotic government, this regime has resorted to a new move. With a view to covering up its activities, which conflict with Islam, this regime has moved to publish a so-called Islamic newspaper. In a detailed article published recently in the rightwing THE TIMES in Britain, it is said that Islam is a major threat to the Mubarak regime in Egypt. Apart from this, it is also stated that Husni Mubarak has commenced the printing of an Islamic newspaper at a great cost with a view to obstructing the gradually increasing tendency in the Egyptian people toward Islam and to misleading public opinion. How will the Egyptian regime, which is anti-Islamic and opposed to Islamic principles, define Islamic laws? But this is another matter. It must be said, however, that the struggle and work of the Muslim Egyptian people have attained such a point that the regime dominating Egypt is being forced to make recourse to such deceitful acts. It is obvious, however, that the opposition of the politicians will have no effect on the activities of the Muslim Egyptian people whatsoever.

CSO: 4600/204

# KHOMAYNI RECEIVES DELEGATES OF 'RELIGIOUS MINORITIES'

Tehran ALIK in Armenian 20 Nov 82 pp 1, 6

[Text] On 18 November 1982, upon a previously made invitation by the office of Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the religious and secular representatives of the officially recognized religious minorities of the country--more than 800 delegates representing Armenian, Assyrian, Jewish and Zoroastrian communities--and members of the Islamic Assembly representing the religious minorities visited Imam Khomeyni to listen to his words concerning minorities.

The Armenian community of Iran was represented at the meeting by 200 delegates led by the spiritual leaders of the three dioceses of the Armenian Apostolic Church, His Beatitude Archbishop Artak Manukian, His Beatitude Bishop Koryun Papian, and Acting Prelate Senior Priest Bagrat Melkonyan, as well as Archbishop Tekeyan, the leader of the Armenian Catholic community.

The Armenian delegation was comprised of spiritual fathers, representatives of national-religious bodies and church-school councils, members of the Delegates' Conference and Diocese Councils and representatives of the Armenian Catholic and Evangelical communities.

In addition to representatives of Armenian communities from large cities with sizeable Armenian populations, such as Tehran, Isfahan and Tabriz, delegates were also present from Mashhad, Gorgan, Ghorogh, Sari, Anzali, Rasht, Qazvin, Arak, the environs of Tabriz and the southern regions of Iran.

## Beyt Ushana's Statement

In the name of God,

Your Holiness Ayatollah ol-'Ozma Imam Khomeyni, great leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran,

We salute the eternal souls who have been martyred on the path of the revolution and in the war of the just against the unjust and we rejoice at the great victories of the brave warriors of Iran in the imposed war. Together with the religious leaders of the officially recognized minorities--comprising Armenian, Assyrian and Chaldean Christians, Jews and Zoroastrians--members of the Islamic

Assembly and other individuals and groups, we are honored to come before Your Greatness from all parts of the country and to convey to your Holiness the warm and virtuous feelings of all members of the officially recognized minorities.

We, the officially recognized religious minorities, have sincerely tried and will honestly and selflessly continue to walk on the path of Your wise leadership toward the realization of the goals of the Revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran side by side and in step with our Moslem brothers. We are happy that the results of our efforts and hardships have been noticed by the Honorable Imam and the leaders of the country and that the Imam has turned his attention to us as a brother.

The officially recognized minorities have been living on this holy land for thousands of years; living together with Moslem brothers for 1,400 years has familiarized them with all the correct revolutionary and human laws of Islam. Consequently, the minorities have great confidence in the decisive leadership of the struggling spiritual authorities of Islam to realize their popular anticolonialist and anti-imperialist goals and to protect the rights of the oppressed, poor and deprived masses of the beloved country and the world as well.

After being subjected to 2,500 years of royal deprivation and tasting the bitter yoke of the oppressors and despotism, we realize the true value of the freedom, independence and justice bestowed upon us by the Islamic Republic.

Only the wounded truly realize the goodness of the medicine. Therefore, we consider it our religious and national duty to make any effort, bar none, toward the complete independence of Iran, the elimination of any form of dependence on others and the further development and better defense of the Islamic Republic. To that end, no amount of sacrifice and selflessness can be too great. The friends of the Islamic Republic of Iran and its people are our friends, and their enemies are our enemies.

We hope that the officially recognized minorities, who are set on the path of providing bigger services to the Islamic Revolution and the Republic, will be accorded all kinds of cultural, educational, social, financial and political facilities by the officials of the Islamic Republic so that their existence and social and cultural development will be insured and that they will be useful and productive elements toward bringing prosperity to the Islamic Republic and the deprived and oppressed masses of the country.

We would like to thank the Imam for the attention he has given to the officially recognized minorities--an evidence of the unity and cooperation of all the oppressed masses and the officially recognized minorities--and we would like to state that today the officially recognized minorities enjoy freedom and fraternity in this country thanks to the Revolution, the wise leadership of Imam of Omwat and the accurate implementations of the competent authorities of the Islamic Republic. With guarantees provided by the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran for their human and basic rights, the minorities do not have any significant problems in their everyday life, and, if certain

small difficulties arise as a result of incorrect actions by certain uninformed individuals, they can easily be speculated and prevented. We are certain that no cloud can come between the officially recognized minorities and the sun of the Revolution and the leadership of the Imam.

The members and representatives of the officially recognized minorities, who are honored to be before You today, hope that the sagacious leader of the Revolution, Ayatollah ol-'Ozma Khomeyni will give guidance and direction to them with his wise statements.

We pray to God that He bestow an early victory upon the brave warriors of Iran fighting on the battlefront, that justice prevail against injustice and He confer perpetuity upon the Islamic Republic of Iran and long life upon the beloved leader.

9588

CSO: 4605/2

# IRANO-CHINESE TRADE INCREASES TO 500 MILLION

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 Jan 83 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Two memoranda of understanding in economic and commerce were signed here yesterday between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the People's Republic of China.

The economic letter was signed between the Chinese deputy minister in charge of foreign economic and commerce relations, and Iranian deputy commerce minister in charge of foreign trade Hojjatolah Ghamini Fard. The other letter was signed between the two countries' commerce directors-general.

According to the economic letter of understanding, Iran and China agreed to increase the volume of their commercial exchanges and expand their economic, scientific and technical relations.

Beginning next year, the volume of trade will increase to 500 million dollars, some 300 million dollars of which will be in the form of barter trade and the rest of which will be in cash.

In the field of industrial cooperation, the two countries will engage in transfer of technology to utilize each others'

technical know-how for manufacturing fireproof materials, building small industries, manufacturing glass, ceramics, copper parts and paper from waste paper.

In agriculture, Iran and China will cooperate in the areas of fisheries, preserving water and soil and manufacturing of small agricultural machinery.

Missions will be exchanged in these areas in the future.

The two countries will also study ground for cooperation in mines and metals.

According to the commercial letter of understanding, the two countries will draw up a yearly program for barter trade.

Half of Iranian exports to China will comprise non-oil materials such as minerals, light and heavy industries products, fireproof materials, dried fruits, leather and animal skin.

Iranian imports from China will comprise chemicals, tools, paper manufacturing machines, metal products, light industries products, electrical appliances, chemical and petrochemical products and textiles.



IRANO-ROMANIA, IRANO-INDIA TALKS ON BILATERAL ISSUES

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 8 Jan 83 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Romanian Ambassador to Tehran N. Stefan met and conferred with Deputy Minister of Heavy Industries of Economic and Trade Affairs Mohammad Javad Asemipur Thursday morning.

They discussed issues concerning Tabriz Tractor Manufacturing Plant which was built with the collaboration of Romania. As a result of these talks it was decided that a Romanian delegation will arrive here soon to thrash out these problems.

A source at the Romanian Embassy here told IRNA that over 100,000 tractors have been built in the Tabriz plant, which are now being used in the agricultural fields in Iran.

In a separate meeting between Indian Ambassador to Tehran Akbar Mirza Khalili and Asemipur views were exchanged on the ways and means for bilateral cooperation between Iran and India for transfer of technology.

During these talks it was decided that an Iranian delegation will go to India to see an industrial exhibition to be held in New Delhi starting from January 18.

Other reports said most of Iran and India's trade exchanges were made between the years of 1975-76 to 79-80.

India's export to Iran mostly were tea, sugar, textiles, iron and steel.

Most non-oil Iranian products which found their way to India included dried fruits, raisin, dates fresh fruits and sulfur.

According to another report Iran agreed to grant a loan of \$630 million to India during the defunct shah's regime for exploration of iron ores in Kudremukh, Rajasthan state.

A total of \$255.2 million have already been paid to India. The same report said that recently an Iranian delegation visited India to thrash out problems concerning the loan.

PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES INDUSTRY UNDERWAY

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 8 Jan 83 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Mir Mohammad Sadeqi, deputy agriculture minister in charge of fisheries said in an interview with IRNA that the southern Fisheries Organization is trying to set up a sub-office to expand pearl fishing activities in the Persian Gulf and said that the many activities of the Fisheries Organization will spread to the center of the fishing activities and its office in Tehran will only act as a coordinator.

Speaking about this year's fishing activities, Sadeqi said that every year about 40,000 tons of fish are distributed in the country, in addition to 12,000 tons of imported fish. He said that this figure was insignificant compared to the annual distribution of 200,000 tons of chicken and 400,000 tons of red meat. Nevertheless, he said that in the first eight months of this year (beginning

March 22, 1982) some 15,810 tons of fish had been caught and purchased in the southern waters, up 102 percent compared to the same period last year. Also, 10,889 tons of fish were processed during this period, showing an increase of 116 percent. Industrial fishing was up slightly at 799 tons during the first eight months of this year from 770 tons in the corresponding period last year. The production of scaly fish also increased 20 percent during this period at 890 tons and while trawlers on contract with the government caught more than double the amount in the first nine months of this year compared to last year at 4,122 tons.

The deputy minister added that Iran imported 12,000 tons of fish from Argentina, but he added that next year the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will provide Iran with its needed fish.

Also the head of the Technical Department of the Southern Fisheries Organisation, Abdolhamid Kavusian, said that 1.3 billions rials (about 190 million dollars), 60 percent of its total development budget will be spent on various projects.

He added that the fishing activities should be limited in the Caspian Sea because of its closed environment while on the other hand fishing should be encouraged in the southern waters.

On the production of Caviar, he said that one of the fish ponds in the Caspian Sea area yielded about two million young sturgeon every year in order to maintain caviar production at a reasonable level. He also invited the private sector to capitalise on fish ponds in the Caspian Sea area.

# COMMUNISTS 'ADMIT CRIMES' AGAINST INNOCENT IN AMOL

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 10 Jan 83 p 2

[Text]

TEHRAN (IRNA) - In the second session of the trial, two leading members of the Iran Communist Union (Sarbedaran), admitted having martyred tens of innocent people in Amol last January. They are being tried for committing the same crimes.

The trial session started Saturday afternoon and was chaired by Ayatollah Mohammadi Gilani. The statements of the fathers of the two people were recorded in the court. The sons of these two were martyred in Amol, a small town by the Caspian Sea. The communists have been accused by the prosecutor of having direct involvement in the Amol clashes last January which led to the martyrdom and wounding of tens of members of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, the gendarmes, army and innocent civilians.

Jahangir Ahmadi Goltappeh, a leading member of the group, said he had no defence for himself, and stated the crimes perpetrated by the group while living in the jungles around Amol.

He also confessed that they used to steal food from

the people of the nearby villages.

He admitted having opened fire on a Revolutionary Guard, a physician, a policeman, and also on a car and a van which were carrying passengers.

Gol Tappeh said he preferred to call the Evin Prison, a university, rather than a jail, because of the humaneness and the Islamic treatment he had been receiving from prison officials. He said his view of the prison, contradicted with that of his party fellows.

Ayatollah Gilani then said those lies on the Evin Prison, were not typical of only the Communists, but rather emanated from the CIA which was the central cadre of all such groups.

Hamid Reza Emami, another member of the group, confessed that he martyred tens of Revolutionary Guards, and members of the armed forces in the last winter clashes in the jungles, and said he could not defend himself, as he was ashamed before the families of the martyrs of Amol.

The trial session adjourned in the evening and the next session was due yesterday.

MOSLEM WOMEN OF IRAN 'ROSE TO SMASH PRO-U.S. REGIME'

Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 10 Jan 83 p 1

[Text]

TEHRAN - Islam gives women real freedom, equality in the eyes of the law and respect in the community, said the daughter of the martyr Ayatollah Mohammad Hussain Beheshti, yesterday.

Speaking in the pre-sermon address at the Friday prayers in Tehran, she said that Iranian Moslem women were "degraded, brutalized and made into sex objects under the Shah's regime. Her nakedness was considered to be worthiness and her degradation, was presented as civilization," she said in describing the condition of women during the reign of the Shah and his father.

The "freedom" given to Iranian women was actually a well thought out plot by the imperialists to destroy the moral fabric of Iranian society in order to destroy all resistance to their domination and exploitation of the country, she added. They, tried to do this

through imported Western T.V. serials, women's magazines and other media at their disposal.

"But, thanks to Allah, the Moslem women of Iran refused to capitulate to their demonic schemes," she said adding that "this is proved by the fact that Moslem women of Iran rose in one body and smashed the American Shah's regime."

She concluded her remarks with a warning to those few women who are still under the influence of the corrupt and immoral ideas imposed on them by the Shah's regime. She advised them to give up any illusions they may have of the return of the old pre-revolutionary days.

She said, "Iranian women had chosen their path, and it is the path of Islam." She warned misguided women "not to try and corrupt the social atmosphere by un-Islamic behavior, because the revolutionary patience of the Moslem people of Iran is not unlimited."

BRIEFS

URANIUM EXPLORATIONS UNDERWAY--Tehran (IRNA)--Researchers of the Iranian Atomic Energy Organisation are currently active in exploring uranium in six regions of the country and the results of their work have been very fruitful, Reza Amrollahi said yesterday. Addressing a seminar on environmental protection against rays, the head of the IAEA said that its research centres have also been taking significant steps for the production of radio isotopes. Amrollahi added that one of the biggest issues facing the organisation has been the incomplete nuclear reactor at the southern port of Bushehr. He said that since some 20 billion rials (about 2.3 billion dollars) have so far been spent on the project, much of it during the former shah's regime, the government, therefore, plans to complete the plant's first power unit. He said that nuclear research centre personnel in Isfahan had also succeeded for the first time to begin operating on one of its most sophisticated laboratories. The research centre had earlier been reported to be working on a long-term project for testing and building a nuclear plant independently. [Text] [Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 Jan 83 p 2]

AGRICULTURAL LIVESTOCK BREEDING TIES--Tehran (IRNA)--Ways and means to expand Iran-Peoples Republic of China agricultural livestock breeding ties were discussed yesterday in a meeting between the Chinese deputy minister of foreign economic relations and commerce with Deputy Agriculture Minister Abbas Ali Zali. In the meeting Zali said the volume of trade between Iran and China presently amounted to some 500 million dollars which will be increased since China has had success in the fields of agriculture and irrigation, preserving waters and augmenting soil efficiency. Zali added that exchange of agricultural experiences will follow mutual visits by Iranian and Chinese delegations, a fact which benefits the two countries national economies. In conclusion, he said an Iranian economic and agricultural mission will go to China early this year and will include fisheries experts and experts in preserving water and soil and agricultural machinery. [Text] [Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 Jan 83 p 2]

MEETING WITH INDUSTRIES MINISTER--Turkish Energy and Natural Resources Minister Fahir Ilkel, who arrived in Iran yesterday, held talks today with the industries minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Referring during the meeting to the volume of trade (?between the two countries) now

totalling \$1 billion, the Turkish minister said: We feel that the great Islamic world has common interests. We must, therefore, benefit from these interests to a maximum extent. Fahir Ilkel continued: The economies of our countries can support each other. Turkey is faced with a power shortage. However, in view of its abundant quantities of foodstuffs and industrial products, trade in these fields with Iran could be in the interests of the two countries. Industries Minister Mostafa Hashemi replied: When the existing deep relations between our countries are taken into consideration, there can be no anxiety over the development of economic relations between the two countries. I hope this visit produces very useful and auspicious results. [Text] [GF171930 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 17 Jan 83]

WAR MARTYRS COMMEMORATION--Tehran (IRNA)--A special ceremony was held at the cemetery of the Armenians Friday to commemorate the memory of the Armenian martyrs at the battlefields of the Iraqi imposed war. The ceremony was held in the presence of Archbishop Manukyan, a group of civil and military authorities and a large number of Armenians. [Text] [Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 10 Jan 83 p 2]

TARIQ AZIZ VISIT CONDEMNED--Paris (IRNA)--Large number of Moslems from various countries on Friday condemned the recent visit of Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz to France. They condemned the visit following the Friday prayers which were organized by the Iranian students of the Islamic Association. The Moslems offered their prayers in Cite, a place where most of the political activities of students are carried out. These Moslems come from Cambodia, Comoros Islands, Iraq, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and France. They also condemned the plots of the reactionary countries and their masters against the Islamic Republic of Iran and pledged their full support for the leader of the Islamic revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeini. During the same gathering the Iraqi Islamic Mujahideen Organization distributed literature concerning the activities of their organization along with a statement denouncing the visit of Tariq Aziz to France. [Text] [Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 10 Jan 83 p 2]

CSO: 4600/210



## PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMY IN 1983 DISCUSSED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Jan 83 p 4

[Text]

DIVERGENT trends were recorded in Pakistan economy during 1982. There were bright spots as well as disappointing developments. On the whole the national economy was under pressure and some of the gains achieved during the preceding few years were disappearing gradually. Because of the losses sustained during 1982, prospects for the year 1983 do not appear to be bright. There is a need to take urgent measures to correct maladjustments in the economy. Some of the developing problems like energy are long-term and unless timely and well planned action is taken things may go out of control and long term economic development programmes may be jeopardised.

According to latest estimates of the Federal Bureau of Statistics, G.D.P. in real terms increased marginally faster at 6.3 per cent during 1981-82 against 6.1 per cent in 1980-81. The increase in G.N.P. was recorded at 5.6 per cent during 1981-82 against 5.1 per cent during 1980-81. The real per capita income increased by 2.6 per cent during 1981-82 as compared to 2.1 per cent during the preceding year.

Another bright trend was that growth rate of the economy came mainly from the commodity sector (comprising agriculture, mining and quarrying, manufacturing, construction and electricity and gas), the growth rate of which improved during 1981-82 over 1980-81, while the growth rate of commodity

sector increased from 6.1 per cent in 1980-81 to 7.1 per cent, that of services declined from 6 per cent to 5.4 per cent.

There was decline in the overall output of agriculture. Its growth rate declined from 4 per cent in 1980-81 to 3 per cent in 1981-82. Major cause of setback was the decline in production of wheat. Production at 11.20 million tonnes during 1981-82 was 2.3 per cent lower than 11.47 million tonnes during 1980-81. The small growth of 3 per cent in agriculture was mainly attributed to increase in the production of sugarcane, cotton and rice. Production of these crops increased during 1981-82 by 13 per cent, 4.8 per cent and 9.9 per cent respectively.

However, increases in the production of these crops were not very happy developments and were posing some painful problems. There were surpluses of refined sugar and raw sugar resulting in decline in prices. The impact on the income of the farmer and profits of the sugar mills may be adverse and next year sugar crop and output of refined sugar may decline. Due to high cost of production, Pakistan is not in a position to make large-scale export of refined sugar. The quality of sugar also requires to be improved to international standard. Iran, at present the most important buyer of sugar of Pakistan, has raised this question.

The surpluses of cotton and rice are also problematic. Exports of rice during 1981-82 were over 26 per cent lower than in 1980-81. According to latest reports exports were less than a half during July-September 1982, if compared to the same period of 1981. The case of cotton was even more serious. Exports during 1981-82 were less than 57 per cent of 1980-81. The situation marginally improved

during the first quarter of 1982-83 over the corresponding period of 1981-82 but the export price was lower by 9 per cent and the small gain was due to higher volume.

An appreciable gain was made in the production of large scale industries, production of which increased by 14 per cent during 1981-82 against 11 per cent during the preceding year. Increases were recorded in the output of all items except in case of paper board, and chipboard and safety matches production of which decreased. However, the development of manufacturing industries appears to be unbalanced. There are surpluses which cannot be disposed of. Sugar is one example. And there are deficits which could be avoided. Cement is an example of this type. Production of cement in 1981-82 was 3.66 million tonnes and imports were almost 5 million tonnes valued at Rs.1.125 billion.

About small scale industries, there is need to check the growth rate of 7.3 per cent which is being used for many years. For 1981-82, some doubt is there as the exports of carpets and rugs, the most important small scale industry declined by 25 per cent in 1981-82, if compared to 1980-81. Unfortunately, this trend continued during the first four months of 1982-83, and exports in quantum were down by 30 per cent if compared to the same period of 1981-82.

A disturbing aspect of Pakistan economy was the fall in the growth rate of national savings due to actual fall in public sector savings and increased dependence on foreign resources, mainly loans and credits. Secondly the growth rate of private investment during 1981-82 was 20 per cent lower than 1980-81 and about 40 per cent of the growth rate achieved in 1979-80. The following table shows the level and growth of savings and investments during 1979-80 to 1981-82.

#### SEE TABLE-I

In this field, the outlook for 1982-83 does not appear to be bright. Sanctions for industrial investment, the most important and desirable field of economic activity for private sector is on the decline. According to Press reports, private investment sanctioned by the Investment Promotion Bureau, the IDBP and PICIC during 1981-82 were Rs.9.578 billion against Rs. 9.679 billion in 1980-81. In fact, sanctions are not increasing consistently and fast as shown below.

**TABLE-I**  
**SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS AT CURRENT PRICES**  
**(Rs. MILLION)**

Particulars	1979-80	1980-81	1981-82
1. Gross total Investment	41,274	46,117	55,895
2. Changes in stock	2,000	4,500	7,000
3. Gross Fixed Investment	39,274	41,617	48,895
(i) Public sector.	26,420	26,824	32,234
(ii) Private sector.	12,854	14,793	16,661
4. Net external Resources Inflow.	11,300	9,514	15,646
5. National Savings	29,974	36,603	40,249
(i) Public Savings	5,149	11,557	9,496
(ii) Private Savings.	24,825	25,046	30,753

#### PERCENTAGE CHANGES (%)

1. Gross Fixed Investment	(+)	24.29	(+)	5.97	(+)	17.49
(i) Public Sector	(+)	20.88	(+)	1.53	(+)	20.17
(ii) Private Sector	(+)	31.94	(+)	15.08	(+)	12.63
2. Net External Inflow	(+)	2.73	(-)	15.81	(+)	64.45
3. National Savings	(+)	34.12	(+)	22.12	(+)	9.96
(i) Public Sector	(+)	155.28	(+)	124.45	(-)	17.83
(ii) Private Sector	(+)	22.10	(+)	0.89	(+)	22.79

#### AS PERCENTAGE OF G.N.P.

1. Gross Fixed Investment	15.41	13.76	13.98
(i) Public Sector	10.37	9.87	9.22
(ii) Private Sector	5.04	4.89	4.76
2. Net External Inflow	4.44	3.15	4.47
3. National Savings	11.76	12.10	11.51
(i) Public Savings	2.02	3.82	2.72
(ii) Private Savings	9.76	8.28	8.79

**TABLE-II**  
**INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT APPROVED BY I.P.B.**  
**LD.B.P. AND PICIC (Rs. MILLION)**

1977-78	4513
1978-79	7451
1979-80	7022
1980-81	9679
1981-82	9578

## SEE TABLE-II

The total gross investment projected for 1982-83 would be 20 per cent more than 1981-82, but it is yet to be seen whether resources—domestic and foreign—would be available for financing the ambitious target.

Balance of payments is another field of serious concern. The current account balance came under serious strains. The deficit on merchandise account increased by 24.5 per cent to \$ 3.4 billion. Deficit on services account also increased by 5.2 per cent to \$ 542 million. After accounting for inflow of home remittances, the deficit in 1981-82 was \$ 1.6 billion against \$ 1 billion in 1980-81. During the first quarter of 1982-83, exports increased in rupee terms but declined in dollar terms, if compared to the same period of 1981-82.

Along with the strains on balance of payments and savings and investment, the Federal budget came under pressure. The deficit of the Federal Government, according to revised estimates, was Rs.18.4 billion, viz 23.7 per cent more than envisaged in the Budget estimates and compared to Rs.14.6 billion in 1980-81. Recourse to the Banking system was Rs.5.4 billion in 1981-82 against Rs.2.4 billion in 1980-81.

**PROSPECTS FOR 1983:** Economic prospects, on the whole, for 1983 are not very bright. Domestic and external events point to a deteriorating trend. The basic facilities like energy and transport and communications are not enough to meet the growing demands of economic development. The country would not be able to finance a big investment programme unless complete austerity is followed in private and public consumption and savings are maximised. Foreign resources should be secured on concessional terms as the country's resources are not enough to support a big foreign debt burden. Afghan refugees are another burden.

Foreign trade and balance of payments are not likely to improve due to deepening world economic recession and increasing protectionist policies of the developed countries. Efforts should be made to develop trade with other developing countries on reciprocal basis. Co-operation with socialist countries should also be expanded. Foreign private investment should be attracted on a large scale but in new technological fields. Both agro-based and mineral based industries should be developed. Special attention should be paid to cement industry. The present demand at about 10 million tons and rising fast may be projected to 20 million tons in next 5 years. Budgetary non-development expenditure should be curtailed and imports of commodities which are not essential should be reduced.

FORMER GOVERNOR DEMANDS POLITICAL SOLUTION

GF140900 Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 12

[Text] Lahore, 10 Jan--Nawab Mohammad Akbar Bugti, a former governor of Baluchistan, said here on Monday that the question of nationalities and what he called the "national autonomy" of the provinces were the foremost issues requiring solution on priority basis.

The president of Pakistan could solve these issues through an executive order as did President Yahya Khan in the case of one unit and provincial parity. He was talking to reporters on his arrival here to participate in the marriage ceremony of the daughter of Tehrik-i-Istaqlal leader, Mr Saif Wardak.

When his opinion was sought on the autonomy provided for the provinces under the 1973 constitution, the former Baluchistan governor said "Forget about 1973, it's now 1983." "None of our representatives signed that constitution," he added.

He said the federation should keep with it the defence, foreign affairs, currency and telecommunications and transfer all other subjects to the federating units. He further said that powers of the federation were decided by the federating units and not by the federation itself.

He categorised all other issues, including the restoration of democracy as of secondary importance, but clarified that it did not mean that he had given up the struggle for restoration of democracy.

Answering a question, Mr Bugti said he had no objection if the national assembly of 1973 was revived but added it would "solve no problem."

He said the province of Baluchistan had a strategic significance from the defence point of view and the future of the people of this province was very bright. He, however, observed that at present Baluchistan had no share in the federation.

He refuted the impression that Baluchistan faced any threat from the Soviet Union.

CSO: 4600/192

WALI KHAN CALLS FOR FRANK, OPEN ASSESSMENT OF NATION'S SITUATION

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 pp 1, 14

[Text] Khan Abdul Wali Khan, former leader of the opposition, yesterday called for a "frank, open and mature assessment" of the national issues to determine whether Pakistan was not being "dragged in the pitfall of Super-Power politics."

He said the time had come when the nation should be taken into confidence on the "complexities of the issues involved" and allowed to analyse the situation "objectively, but fearlessly" in the larger national interest.

The veteran politician from the NWFP who said he would rather be styled as a former leader of the Opposition, was speaking at the Karachi Press Club at a reception yesterday. A question-answer session followed his speech.

The defunct NDP leader made it clear that power would have to be transferred to the people one day. If it were to be a peaceful transfer, as it must be, then the only recourse left in his opinion was to restore the democratic institutions--the sooner, the better.

He cautioned that if the democratic, legal and constitutional channels continued to be "choked," the country would run the risk of "street politics."

Pointing to the 1977 mass movement, he said that "history might repeat in the sense that it will be the people who will lead the leaders and not vice-versa."

Stressing the need for removal of ban on political activities, he said that the only way to achieve a "national consensus" for peaceful transfer of power was to allow "without reservations" the political parties to reach the people and help evolve a "healthier, constructive national perspective."

The President of the Karachi Press Club, Mr. Abdul Hameed Chhapra, in his remarks drew Mr. Wali Khan's attention to the "curtailment of the freedom of the

Press" and urged him to assure the newsmen that he and his party stood unalterably for the removal of the Press and Publications Ordinance and "other repressive laws."

**Press freedom**

Mr. Wali Khan said that the Press in a "civilised" state structure functions as a watchdog of the fundamental rights of the people and, therefore, if "this fourth pillar" was demolished the other three pillars of statecraft, namely, the judiciary, legislature and the executive, would become "redundant and ineffective."

He emphasised that only when the democratic institutions are al-

lowed to have their full play, the active participation of the people is ensured and stability is achieved in the body-politic.

**Risky venture**

Answering questions, the defunct NDP leader said, it was a "risky venture to involve Islam into politics" because that way, in his view, it would make "confusion worse confounded" in the social set-up which, he said, was already "full of contradictions."

Mr. Wali Khan wondered why Nizam-i-Islam was not being enforced, in toto, and why only in such a way that the "vested interests are kept safe."

"The position today is that there is no accountability and decisions of far-reaching importance are taken unilaterally and without seeking public confidence," Mr. Wali Khan said.

Such a situation would not occur if there were an elected assembly, an independent and fearless judiciary, an executive implementing the policy decisions faithfully, and the Press exercising its key role of holding the powers-that-be to public accountability.

In reply to a question he said there was no risk of "confrontation" between the locals and the Afghan refugees in the NWFP.

He said that President Zia-ul-Haq talked of the humanitarian aspect as well as stressed on the virtue of Islamic brotherhood, "but we, Pathans, have our tribal and ethnic relationships with our Afghān brethren and, therefore, in the footsteps of Ansar-i-Madina we welcome them in our midst."

However, he said, care should be taken that the Afghan refugees were kept aloof from the country's internal affairs.

He pointed out that in the Peshawar University students' elections, the Afghan refugee leader, Mr. Gulbadin Hikmatyar,

was allowed to visit the University Campus and talk to the students during the election campaign.

Mr. Wali Khan was also critical of the facilities offered to leaders and workers of defunct Jamaat-i-Islami to visit the Afghan refugee camps and to "hobnob" with the inmates, while his partymen and other political workers were being denied the same opportunity.

In this context, he stressed the need to keep a strict vigil on the purchase, sale and movement of lethal weapons within the country.

### Contradictions

He wondered what type of ban on political activities it was when it was being applied "discriminately"?

How the defunct Jamaat-i-Islami was allowed to hold its four-day Shoorā session in Lahore, while "we of the defunct NDP were bundled out of Lahore the moment we were about to start proceedings after recitation from the Holy Quran"?

Why, he further asked, Pir Pagaro lately moved freely in the NWFP, met people and held meetings at which "he accepted some persons into his party's fold and made political speeches"?

Why his aged father, 90-year old Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, was re-

strained from visiting a village and sent back to the Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar, as if he was a patient which he was not.

Talking about himself, he said: "Look, I am in Karachi after a lapse of more than two years, so to say, on a visa granted to me." "This was my country and I, as a free citizen, should not have been prevented from visiting any of its part.

To another question, Mr. Wali Khan said that for the Army "there can be no other role than that defined clearly in the unanimously adopted Constitution of 1973."

The Army, he explained, was a national institution on which "every citizen has his claim as well as trust."

It will, therefore, not be "advisable" for the Army "to take sides in politics or to be guided by political considerations."

Mr. Wali Khan decried the character-assassination campaign against the politicians and pointed out that the 1970 elections, though free, were not impartial.

If they were fair why, he asked, power was not transferred to Shaikh Mujibur Rehman, the then leader of the majority party? Who prevented the Army, then in rule, from transferring power "peacefully to whom it belonged," he asked?



PAKISTAN PAPER DISCUSSES NONALIGNED STATUS

GF140910 Karachi DAWN in English 10 Jan 83 p 7

[Editorial: "Not a Buffer State"]

[Text] The president's clarification that Pakistan has not assumed the position of a buffer state as a consequence of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan is reassuring. Equally significant is his statement that Pakistan cannot be described as a front-line state. Both epithets misrepresent the country's position, and their frequent use can give rise to false notions within the country and misunderstandings abroad.

A buffer state is a small state established or preserved between two greater states to prevent direct clashes between them. A buffer state thus arises as a result of an understanding between two or more big powers to treat as neutral territory a state lying between their territories or zones of influence. Thus Afghanistan for long served as a buffer state between the czarist empire to its northwest and the British Indian empire to its southeast. Though a buffer state might not come under the direct control of either of the big powers it separates, it does lose its freedom of action as the big powers which treat it as a buffer often exert pressure on it and come to play a role in shaping its external relations, generally in competition but also occasionally in collusion.

Now it so happens that the Soviet Union clearly disavows any intention to claim Afghanistan as its own and undertakes to withdraw its forces from there under certain conditions. There is no direct conflict between temporarily occupied Afghanistan and India (or between the occupying power, the USSR, and India) so that nobody is asking Pakistan to play the role of a buffer state. But what is more, there is no earthly reason for Pakistan to covet a role which involves a diminution of sovereignty and needlessly invites pressure.

Now as for a front-line state, it means a country deliberately adopting, on behalf of another country or a group of countries, a confrontational posture against a (hostile) neighbour. Pakistan will have to serve the strategic interests of others if it agrees to have itself classified as a front-line state in relation to Afghanistan. In the given context playing such a role would jeopardize Pakistan's freedom of action in external relations and compromise its non-aligned character. It is, therefore, highly ill-advised to call Pakistan either a buffer state or a front-line state.

In the situation that Pakistan faces in Southeast Asia today, it is important that it treads a wary path steering clear of the conflict between the two superpowers. The Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan should be unacceptable to Pakistan on moral, strategic and political grounds. The use of military force against another country, especially by a superpower against a nonaligned Third World nation, is a matter that is to be unequivocally condemned in principle.

Moreover, the presence of a superpower in its proximity can give rise to serious political and strategic pressures, a phenomenon which Pakistan has already experienced since December 1979. A direct result of the Afghan crisis has been the influx of nearly three million refugees from Afghanistan into Pakistan. The basic position adopted by Islamabad on these issues is correct. But it is apparent that apart from the Afghanistan question being one which involves the independence and non-aligned status of a Third World country, it has also become a source of big power conflict.

It is important that Pakistan does not get sucked into the vortex of superpower rivalry. Washington's perception of the Soviet policies in Afghanistan is determined by its own global and regional compulsions in the specific context of East-West relations. Thus Washington's immediate political and strategic objective in South West Asia is proclaimed to be the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan.

This is also the foreign policy goal of Islamabad. But given the crucial differences between Washington and Islamabad in terms of factors of power, geostrategic location and foreign policy objectives, it is inconceivable that the two should seek to approach the Afghan crisis identically. The U.S. has the will and the capacity to project its power effectively in the region of west Asia and the Middle East. For the U.S. the problem of Soviet military presence in Afghanistan forms part of a much larger strategic problem.

Pakistan's objective in Afghanistan is incomparably more modest. If Pakistan were to take its cue from the United States, it would be acting as a front-line state.

To ensure that Pakistan's non-aligned status and independence are preserved, the government will have to be careful not to identify itself with the strategic aims and policies of either of the superpowers. This would be possible only if Pakistan does not make its defence and security dependent on the military might of an outside power. Self reliance should be central to the defence and security planning of the country.

Moreover, Islamabad will strengthen the national position if it steps up its search for a political solution of the Afghan problem. This might call for some bold and imaginative measures which need not necessarily compromise the government's principled stand.

It is necessary that the stalemate which has overtaken the negotiations of Afghanistan is broken. It is in Pakistan's own interest that the crisis be resolved soon, for thus alone will it be possible for Islamabad to safeguard the non-aligned position and keep the region free from superpower rivalry.

'SEVERE' ENERGY SHORTAGE AGGRAVATED BY DROUGHT

BK161149 Hong Kong AFP in English 1106 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Report by Michel Martin-Roland]

[Text] Islamabad, 16 Jan (AFP)--Pakistan is having problems keeping the lights switched on, the heating going, and factories in production this winter because of a severe energy shortage aggravated by drought.

Towns have been lifeless for the last two nights following a decision by the government requiring all shops to close at 5:30 p.m. to save electricity. Meanwhile, city centres are experiencing power cuts lasting up to three hours in the morning and evening. The euphemism used by the authorities to describe this is "load shedding."

Between cuts the current is weak, adding to the "black out" atmosphere as shops selling candles and oil lamps do a roaring trade.

Last week the entire country experienced a power cut lasting several hours as a result of a breakdown in the distribution circuit dependent on the giant Tarbela Dam in the north of the country.

Experts say that increased demand for electricity this winter has put a huge strain on the national grid, parts of which are old and worn out.

Production capacity is on average about 10 per cent short of meeting demand, and this gap has grown wider in winter.

The winter downpours are late this year, and hydroelectric lakes, which provide 60 per cent of the country's electricity, are particularly low. The level of Tarbela reservoir has fallen some 20 metres (60 feet).

Meanwhile, there is not enough gas to meet demand. In Marachi, the country's economic centre, industry is experiencing cuts and reductions in current. In Sind Province the authorities have decided to keep power flowing to heavy industries and major plants, in the textile sector for example, while placing the burden on shortages on small companies.

The gas shortage has considerably reduced output of cement, and has hit the construction industry which is busier in winter than in summer because of the climate.

In Karachi the Kanupp 30 megawatt nuclear power plant has been shut down for safety checks.

Officials responsible for distributing the available energy face difficult choices. Farmers awaiting the winter rains are demanding that power be supplied to the electric pumps which provide irrigation. But companies are all demanding special treatment so that they can maintain production.

So the main burden is placed on the ordinary consumer who is particularly disgruntled because the government has just increased gas and fuel prices by an average 10 per cent.

In Sialkot, in the north of the Punjab, 500 students paraded in the streets in defiance of martial law to protest against power cuts which they said threatened to ruin their college year.

Informed sources say that the cuts are likely to last for at least another month until the rains come, the days grown longer and the climate becomes warmer.

But in the long-term, Pakistan faces an energy crisis which threatens its fragile economic development, experts believe.

Contrary to estimates in recent years, gas reserves in Baluchistan will be exhausted in 15 years' time if no major new reserves are discovered. Meanwhile, oil exploration in the south of the country has not located any commercially exploitable fields.

Consequently, oil output is unlikely to exceed 12 per cent of consumption, and the oil import bill has risen from 4,000 million rupees to 15,000 million (1,400 million dollars) in five years.

Pakistan, which is one of the most indebted countries in Asia, is spending 60 per cent of its currency earnings on the importation of oil, mainly from Gulf countries.

Even if the hydroelectric dams at Tarbela, Mangla and Mianwali double their output during the next 10 years, Pakistan will enter the next century with an energy production shortage of about 10,000 megawatts.

The only solution for the government is to look toward nuclear power with the help of Western industrialised countries. However these nations remain cautious about the much repeated peaceful intentions of the military regime headed by General Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

In this context the response to the invitation for international tenders by the end of the year for the construction of a nuclear power plant at Chashma, will be decisive for the future of Pakistan's economy.

# IMPACT OF REMITTANCES: 'DUBAI CULTURE' SYNDROME DISCUSSED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Jan 83 p 6

[Article by Kay Emm]

[Text]

"ALL that glitters is not gold was the proverb we learned at high school. But it seems Dubai money is all that glitters today and it is real gold. Hundreds and thousands have become captives of Dubai-glitter and have ushered in a new era; the era of Dubai Culture.

Self-exiled fortune-seekers, separated from their kith and kin live in desert camps and work in double shifts, but manage to generate a constant inflow of foreign exchange. Perhaps they endure loneliness, fatigue and degradation but their families back home cherish their newly acquired affluence and status. Their buxom females have discarded 'burqa' and wear half-sleeves to exhibit their dazzling gold bangles; their youngsters have taken a fancy to jeans and disco-music; and their elders are pre-occupied with purchase of plots and construction of houses in posh localities.

Dubai Culture is an intriguing phenomenon. A phenomenon which has perplexed both the conservatives and the radicals. While the conservatives lament the turmoil in the value system, the radicals are concerned about increasing political apathy. A new situation has arisen, requiring reappraisal both by the economists and the politicians.

The elite is among the worst to suffer. While the 'Sahibs' view the new developments philosophically, the 'Begums' feel miserable and don't hide their contempt for the 'upstarts'. The emergence of "Lumpen bourgeoisie", (a term which the Marxists would dismiss as unscientific), has robbed the elite of their pride and grandeur.

They could no more take pride in their palatial bungalows, expensive wardrobes or VCR's. They could not beat the new competitors either in the accumulation of modern gadgetry or in the display of wealth. They could only take solace in their sophistication and

etiquettes, the virtues which the upstarts would take time to learn. The urban elite tends to become more exclusive, they have forsaken the movie houses. The snack bars, the shopping plazas and even the Test matches.

The rural gentry is faced with a deeper crisis. A crisis of power and legitimacy. In good old days when the feudal lords of Punjab were at the zenith of their glory, they had established an elaborate network of household establishments. The ancestral house in the village was the fortress of their economic power and political hegemony, where an army of serfs stood in obedience to carry out the wishes of the master.

A bungalow in a posh locality of Lahore was meant for being the intricacies of modern ways of life including the political system of alien origin. Over these years the feudal lords had forgotten the humble origin of the mercantile bourgeoisie and had made peace with them, but the 'Lumpen bourgeoisie' was the limit.

They would have ignored their impudence in cities but the 'unkindest cuts of all' was the intrusion in their power base, which threatened the legitimacy of their power-structure. Not that the down trodden were in open rebellion or they wanted to grab the lands, but they had discovered the ways to bypass the feudal authority. For them the feudal lord was not more the

sole benefactor. They have money of their own and they want to spend it to give themselves a more respectable appearance. To the utter dismay of the feudal lords, even the 'Kammis' are building double-storeyed houses.

The Dubai factor has bamboozled the radical theoreticians. They were envisaging a deepening economic crisis, large scale unemployment and impoverishment of the poor. They had expressed the hope that the increasing misery of the working class would force it to resort to radical political action. But the working class, instead of assuming the vanguard role drifted across the Arabian Sea and the theoreticians were stuck with their cliché.

"The working class has turned reactionary," proclaimed one analyst. He was worried that a big chunk had already changed its class-character and the remaining were aspiring to follow them. Since those who manage to obtain visas and work permits were the most enterprising ones, the working class has been deprived of its potential leadership.

But with all the power the petro-dollars can not possibly transform all plebians into partisans. So the "have not" have survived the Dubai boom and there are quite a few of them. The unlucky ones are neither the direct recipients nor indirect beneficiaries of imported riches.

They have not only to bear the brunt of economic distress and deprivation but are under constant fire from their nagging wives. Despite their best endeavours to put in overtime and run side-business, they cannot manage to satisfy the needs and aspiration of their families. Since they cannot be inducted into Dubai Culture, they have become social outcasts.

How long the Dubai Culture would survive? Perhaps as long as the three million immigrants hold on to their jobs, and new recruits can find ways and means to defy the tightening immigration regulations. But the energy resources of the Gulf are not limitless and there are cut-throat competitors from all over the hungry Third World willing to sell their labour at cheaper rates. What would happen if the oil 'Sheikhs' were to decide that they have had enough of apartments, and shopping plazas and they could manage without barbers and 'Dhobis'.

It would be catastrophic for the property dealers, mutton-sellers and music centres of Lahore. Many English medium schools would go out of business and readymade garment stores would advertise permanent clearance sales. The Anarkali and Liberty Market dwellers would have the misfortune of haggling with the stingy wives of petty bureaucrats, and in despair they would turn to "Data Darbar".



YAQUB KHAN DISCUSSES VISITS TO OMAN, BAHRAIN

BK131658 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that his recent visits to Oman and Bahrain have further enhanced the close identity of views existing between Pakistan and these countries on various major international and regional issues. He was talking to newsmen on his return to Islamabad this evening from his 4-day visit to the Gulf countries. He said during the talks he held in these countries a concrete expression was given to support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Emphasis was laid on the need for unity among the Islamic nations to face the existing challenge of the anti-Islamic forces. In addition to this, any foreign intervention in the Gulf region was also condemned. Concern was expressed over continuing foreign military intervention in Afghanistan, and a comprehensive political solution to this problem was called for.

The foreign minister said that at the end of the talks with the Omani leaders, they signed an agreement for increasing economic, trade and technical cooperation between the two countries and further agreed to finalize an agreement for cooperation in cultural and educational fields. The foreign minister said that Pakistan and Bahrain have agreed to set up a joint committee to explore the possibility of promoting cooperation in the economic, trade, technical and cultural fields. The foreign minister said that his visit has consolidated Pakistan's relations with the Gulf countries. He said at a time when the Islamic community is faced with major challenges, it is very essential for the Islamic nations to forge unity and generate a unanimity of views on various issues.

CSO: 4656/76

## HANDLING OF REMITTANCES THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS LAUDED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Jan 83 p 7

[Article by Jawaid Bokhari]

[Text]

THE hardening of the Rupee in foreign exchange markets vis-a-vis the U.S. dollar has helped boost home remittances through official channels during July-October 1982.

According to the State Bank Governor Mr. A.G.N. Kazi, exchange dealers in Dubai pay Rs.12.60 to a dollar when official remittances fetch Rs.12.80. This has caused diversion of home remittances from non-official to official channels. Whereas, in terms of U.S. dollars exports have declined by 11 per cent, home remittances have swelled by 32 per cent.

A major effort was made recently to streamline procedures of nationalised banks to attract home remittances on the recommendations of the committee set up by the Chairman of the Pakistan Banking Council Mr. M.R. Khan.

The growth rate in home remittances has been much faster than the IMF estimates or the agreed rate for current fiscal year between the Fund and Pakistan of some 15 per cent. The growth has been

closer to the original estimates of the Pakistani officials.

With exports remaining stagnant or falling, the home remittances according to Mr. Kazi will provide "strong support" to the balance of payments position.

For the first time in 1981-82 home remittances exceeded export earnings. Whereas remittances totalled 2,394 million dollars, export proceeds amounted to 2,319 million dollars. Home remittances have helped finance growing trade deficit and mounting debt burden. They have also contributed significantly in raising bank deposits sharply by Rs.9.5 billion during July-November 1982 against less than Rs. one billion in corresponding period of last year.

In the face of persistent recession, whose end is still not in sight, the strategy of an export led growth has become redundant. Pakistan's close proximity to capital-surplus and labour-scarce Gulf indicates the prospects for boosting export of manpower. Pakistan is a labour surplus and capital-scarce country.

The Gulf is now trying to attain self-sufficiency in agricultural pro-

ducts by syconizing poultry projects and farms. Pakistan cannot find outlet for its farm surplus in the face of competition from well-established food exporting countries like Australia and USA. Washington also subsidises sales of agricultural commodities.

In the industrial field, developing countries like Pakistan suffer from quota restrictions and tariff walls. Rapid industrialisation is therefore dependent on expansion of rural markets through agrarian reforms and on greater reliance on labour intensive projects based on local capital, skill, expertise and raw materials. The need for exports should be minimised by greater self-reliance in the field of technology in particular and economy in general.

Massive debt burden, a heavy strain on the country's meagre financial resources, costly, outdated, and import-oriented foreign technology made dearer day by day because of global inflation, shrinking of world trade in the face of international recession, growing protectionism everywhere, all point to the need for self-reliance that should form the core of our economic planning.

INCREASE IN 1982 REMITTANCES REPORTED

Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 11

[Text]

ABU DHABI, Jan 6: Pakistan Ambassador to the UAE, Amir Gulistan Janjua, has said that there had been a 400 per cent increase in remittances through the legal channel by Pakistanis in the UAE during 1982.

He regarded this as a sign of their confidence in the country's economy and the Pakistan Government's policies.

Addressing a Press conference here, he attributed this phenomenal growth in legal remittances to the delinking of the Pakistani rupee from the American dollar in early 1982, which had increased the rate of rupee against the US dollar and had also helped the country in its export performance.

Mr Janjua said that the Zionist-dominated world media was behind the "continuous canard that Pakistan was developing a nuclear bomb." There is not an iota of truth in this because Pakistan has no need, has no intention to make, and cannot afford a nuclear bomb", he stressed. "Our priorities are for developing and industrialising our country, growing more food for our people, and ensuring their welfare and well-being".

On relations with India, he hailed the process of normalisation and pointed out that the Indian Foreign Secretary would visit Islamabad later this month to continue the peace process. "It was Pakistan which had initiated the process by offering to conclude a no-war pact with India," he pointed out.—PPI

# ZIA'S INTERVIEW WITH 'ASAHI' REPORTED

Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 pp 1, 9

[Text]

TOKYO, Jan 11: President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq has said Pakistan has been able, over the past five years, to raise its national product at an annual rate of 6 per cent, exports have more than doubled and living standards improved despite a high population growth rate.

In an interview with leading Japanese newspaper 'Asahi Shimbun', he said the main constraint was capital which was difficult to mobilise because of relatively low level of income. Decrease in foreign aid and rise in import prices have widened the payments gap and increased the foreign debt burden.

The President reiterated that the Soviet Union must withdraw its forces from Afghanistan in order to bring stability and prosperity to Asia.

He said that Soviet pullout was necessary to restore confidence and promote cooperation with other countries. Pakistan, now sheltering more than three million refugees in the wake of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, had been the country most directly affected by it.

In another reference to the Soviet Union, President Zia-ul-Haq said the Heng Samrin regime was backed up by the presence of more than 180,000 Vietnamese troops.

The President observed while his Asian neighbours often view China with a wary eye, China had been a model neighbour. He cited China's friendship and support of Pakistan's legitimate objectives of safeguarding its independence and

sovereignty and developing its economy.

The President who was answering written questions submitted by Japan's largest newspaper, with a daily circulation of eight million copies, described Afghanistan, Kampuchea and Israel as all Asian trouble spots.

He also answered questions about the contributions of China, the USA, the Soviet Union and Japan to the stability and prosperity of Asia.

The President's answers to other questions were as under:

Q. In what way do you think the security of Asia can be attained? What kind of impact would this have on deterrence?

A. In the shrunken world of today, security of continents and regions is interlinked, one to another. In each case, however, maintenance of peace and security is dependent on the observance of the principles of the UN Charter which have been evolved by the international community through experience over centuries.

In Asia as elsewhere, major Powers must not only recognise these as well as with neighbours that happen to be less powerful. It is imperative for the security of Asia that these problems are resolved through peaceful means and in accordance with the provisions of the relevant UN resolutions.

Q. Present Asian affairs seem stable, but do you see any latent elements threatening the region as a whole?

A. One cannot ignore the problem in the Western part of the con-

continent where Israel, pursuing a reckless and ruthless policy of aggression and expansionism, has continued to jeopardize the security of its neighbours, with implications that affect the peace and stability of the whole world.

The prolonged war between Iran and Iraq remains another major source of concern.

If these problems in Asia continue to fester and if just and equitable solutions are not found to them, the turmoil in Asia can deepen with incalculable consequence for mankind.

Q. In what ways do you think the United States and the Soviet Union could contribute to the stability and prosperity of Asia?

A. The Soviet Union can make a valuable contribution to the progress of the developing countries of the continent. Its policy in Afghanistan has, however, created serious concern among the neighbouring countries. Withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan is necessary for the restoration of confidence and promotion of cooperation between the USSR and other countries.

The United States, as the most affluent and highly developed country in the world and militarily one of the most powerful, is natur-

ally in a position to make a vital contribution to the peace, progress and prosperity of the world and we hope that it will continue to take positive and constructive interest in Asia.

Q. What kind of role Japan should play in contributing to the security and economic development of Asia?

A. The creativity and innovativeness, discipline and dynamism, industriousness and organisation of its people have given Japan a unique position in the world. Its great achievements provide an example and inspiration to nations struggling for development. Its economy in itself is a source of power that is both benign and constructive and gives Japan tremendous prestige and influence.

Pakistan looks forward to an ever-increasing role of Japan in the cause of peace, progress and prosperity in Asia.

Japan has significantly improved economic assistance to Pakistan over the past years which we appreciate. We hope in the coming years, Japan will play an important role in the modernisation of our textile machinery which is largely Japanese in origin, and in thermal power generation and electronic industry.—APP

PAGARA FACTION SEEN AS SERIOUS IN POWER SHARING

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Jan 83 p 6

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Jan. 2: The Pagara Group of the Pakistan Muslim League seems to have become pretty serious about the possibility of sharing the government with the present set-up. And what was claimed to have added to its confidence was a 'firm promise from the highest quarter'.

Although any such possibility has been denied by no less person than the party Secretary-General, those having no doubts about the assurances and keen to seize the opportunity were of the view that the seat of power was well within sight.

In this context the most optimistic has been the Chief Organizer of the Pagara PML, Kanwar Qutub-uddin, for whose office the party had yet to make a provision in its constitution.

He was here last week to deliberate the issue with his partymen and other like-minded parties in his anxiety to ensure what he called

'powerful support' for the venture. He claimed it was being done on the orders of the Pk of Pagara but at the same time he was worried about the several cases registered against him at various places on the charge of violating the restrictions on political activities.

On this account alone some of his own partymen were not inclined to believe the brightness of the chances of the Pagara faction of the Muslim League joining the government. They rather rightly point out that on the eve of such a possibility the lower rank of the party would also have been given the same treatment as the Pk of Pagara who they said had throughout been getting a special treatment although he had been more active on the otherwise defunct front.

In spite of all the factors that make things bleak, the leaguers are looking forward to the new year's cake. Whether they really get it is anybody's guess but the impression they have been able to create did help them get back some of the flown out birds.

CSO: 4600/206



UNITED KINGDOM-PAKISTAN CHAMBER TEAM MEETS ZIA

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Jan 83 p 12

[Text]

RAWALPINDI, Dec 31: A five-member delegation of the UK-Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry called on President Gen Moh'mmad Zia-ul-Haq here this afternoon.

The delegation, led by the Chairman of the Chamber, Mr M.T. Shaheen, discussed with the President the possibilities of increase in the volume of trade from Pakistan to the UK.

The delegation also made certain proposals for investment in Pakistan by the Pakistanis and others from Britain.

It may be added that Pakistan's imports from Britain are already very substantial and there is a scope for increase of exports from Pakistan to the UK.

The Pakistanis in Britain could help in increasing imports from Pakistan and also bring investments for various sectors of the economy in Pakistan.

The President enquired about the welfare of the Pakistani community in Britain. He also enquired about the facilities available for the preservation of Islamic identity of the Pakistanis there.

Present at the meeting were Mr Muazzam Ali, Adviser to the President on Overseas Pakistanis, and Mr H.U. Beg, Secretary Finance.

The proposals made by the delegation will be examined by the agencies concerned.

The members of the delegation include Mr Mukarram Syed/Chaudhry Mohammad Rafique, Mr Bashir Ahmed Maan and Mr Mohammad Sarwar.—PPI

# PRIVATE SECTOR URGED TO MODERNIZE AGRICULTURE

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Jan 83 p 6

[Text]

The Federal Minister for Food and Agriculture, Vice-Admiral Muhammad Fazli Janjua, has called upon the private sector to come forward and play its role in the modernisation of the country's agriculture.

Speaking yesterday at a seminar on the strategy of speeding up agricultural development, he said there was great scope for the private sector to participate in agriculture. The Government was ready to give incentives and concessions to the private entrepreneurs. The Government would, for example, provide concessional credits and income-tax exemptions to any private ventures in setting up agro-industry advisory services for the benefit of small farmers.

He emphasised the need for private or cooperative efforts for filling the gap in the processing and marketing of agricultural products.

Similarly, agro-services could be provided by the private sector in the distribution and use of pesticides, fertilisers and tractors.

Vice-Admiral Janjua said the aim of the Government's agricultural policy was to raise the standard of living of the people in rural areas. The Government was trying to improve the infrastructure by building roads, providing electricity, drinking water, basic health facilities and schools. Rural development was fundamental to agricultural progress, he added.

The Minister said agriculture was the single largest industry in Pakistan as it provided the largest number of jobs to people. In fact, 75 per cent of the people lived and earned their livelihood in rural areas.

The Government has given priority to providing opportunities to small farmers to increase the per-

acre yield, he said. A multi-dimensional approach was being followed for agricultural development, namely through technical measures and research, and extension services, providing incentives by way of agricultural credits and support prices, and improving infrastructure.

The Minister said that farming was not the only field of agriculture. There were other sectors such as poultry farming, fisheries, livestock, forests and dairy farming which had to be given their due importance.

He urged the business community to come forward in setting up livestock farms and poultry feed industries. The Government would encourage such ventures and provide all necessary incentives. Similarly, milk production and supply was a field in which the private sector could take initiative. — APP/PPI

CSO: 4600/205

## CREDIT EXPANSION OF 9 BILLION RUPEES ENVISIONED

Karachi DAWN in English 10 Jan 83 p 1

[Text]

The National Credit Consultative Council, while reviewing the monetary and credit situation during the first half of the current financial year, has noted that the credit expansion has "generally proceeded" in accordance with the 1982-83 Credit Plan.

The Credit Plan for the current financial year envisages a total credit expansion of Rs 9.46 billion in private sector.

The NCCC meeting was presided over by Mr. A.G.N. Kazi, Governor, State Bank of Pakistan, in Karachi yesterday.

According to a Press release by the State Bank, the sectoral distribution of the Credit Plan, as now revised, is Agriculture, Rs 1.98 billion; manufacturing, Rs 4.54 billion; housing, Rs 1.1 billion and others Rs 1.84 billion.

These, it was stated, are the net figures after taking into account the expected recoveries during the course of the year 1982-83.

On gross basis the total amount of credit for agricultural purposes is projected at Rs 5.89 billion. Of this Rs 3.78 billion will be provided for financing seasonal inputs like fertilisers, seeds, pesticides etc. The remaining amount of Rs 2.06 billion will be advanced for financing fixed investment in agriculture, including sinking of tubewells, purchase of tractors and levelling of land. The agricultural credit will be advanced through the Agricultural Development Bank of Pakistan, the commercial banks and the cooperatives. The share of disbursement of each will be:

ADBP: Rs 2.25 billion, Commercial Banks: Rs 2.13 billion, and Federal Bank for Cooperatives and Punjab Provincial Cooperative Bank: Rs 1.48 billion.

The commercial banks have been directed to make at least an amount of Rs 0.9 billion available by way of disbursement to agriculturists with small holdings of subsistence level. A separate allocation of Rs 276 million has been

made for financing tobacco marketing.

For the manufacturing sector a separate allocation of Rs 3.05 billion has been provided for financing fixed investment in the private sector which will be disbursed by Industrial Development Bank of Pakistan to the extent of Rs 0.35 billion, State Bank's loans to PICIC, ICP, EEL, NDFC, SBFC, Pakistan-Kuwait Investment Company and Pakistan-Libya Holding Company: Rs 1.12 billion and commercial banks Rs 1.58 billion. This allocation for commercial banks is specific and cannot be diverted to other uses.

Of the gross allocation for housing, Rs 1.1 billion have been provided to the House Building Finance Corporation; and Rs 50 million to commercial banks for financing loans of more than Rs 1.5 lacs but not exceeding Rs 3 lacs in each case. Other allocations made on net increase basis include Rs 1.84 billion for transport, commerce and other sectors.

## LONG-TERM PERCEPTIONS URGED IN RELATIONS WITH UNITED STATES

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 23 Dec 82 pp 5-6

[Text]

SHORN OF RHETORIC, formal pleasantries and ceremonial geniality, the CMLA-President's official tour of the United States has brought forth a reaffirmation of the special relationship Washington and Islamabad have been building up during the past two years. In the talks General Ziaul Haq has had with Mr. Reagan and senior members of the US administration, the principal issues were Pakistan's security needs, its entitlement to economic aid, its nuclear energy programme, and its efforts to curb the manufacture and supply of narcotics. It seems the greatest measure of understanding was reached on Pakistan's present role in the region and the means required to enable it to play that role. On the question of economic assistance, the existing commitments were endorsed. As regards Pakistan's plans to develop nuclear energy resources, the two countries seem to have agreed to disagree; the understanding being that Pakistan would not bow to any pressure to give up its peaceful atomic energy programme and the US would be free to follow a course dictated by its outlook on the issue. In respect of narcotics, Pakistan gave an account of the measures it has adopted to check the menace

and pointed out what was needed to be done by the other parties concerned. Far more useful than exchanges on these specific issues must have been the opportunity for both sides to examine each other's aspirations and problems not only in the context of bilateral relations but also in the wider, global perspective. And quite a few questions have come to the surface that governments of both the countries must bear in mind if the dangers the quicksands of geopolitics are likely to present before either or both of them are to be avoided.

That Pakistan should seek friendship with the United States is a postulate grounded in principle. Pakistan cannot but subscribe to the ideal of cordial relations with all countries of the world, especially with a country which still commands the leadership of the Western camp. For obvious reasons, these relations have to be subject to two fundamental considerations — the principle of reciprocity and non-negotiability of each side's national interests. Unfortunately, in the past, Pakistan-US relations were subjected to severe strains due to non-fulfilment of these conditions. The principle of reciprocity, in particular, was

often breached. The divergence of opinion between the two countries on the purpose for which Pakistan received military aid from the US, or joined the defence treaties sponsored by the latter, could never be resolved. Thus, during the critical decade of the sixties, the US insistence on interpreting the various accords in the context of its own global strategy led Pakistan to the inescapable conclusion that its faith in reciprocity had been misplaced. Now Pakistan again faces the question whether Washington really means, or at all has the capacity, to interpret its association with Pakistan not only in its own interest but also in the interest of this country. Likewise, consideration has to be given to the changes in Pakistan's external policy framework that have taken place in the last few years. In the first phase of Pakistan-US relations this country was prepared, mistakenly as it was proved, to compromise its neutral stance on both regional and global issues for the sake of military aid. In subsequent years, Pakistan has opted for a more rational policy based on non-alignment and active pursuit of peace with its immediate neighbours. Thus, it must be wary of anything, however attractively presented, that undermines its credentials as a non-aligned country or jeopardises its efforts to secure peace in the region on the basis of the Bandung principles. Time will, of course, show whether the special relationship that US offers Pakistan will not affect the latter's vital interests in this respect but it will be imprudent to wait till time delivers its judgement. The need for promptly reading the direction the wind takes is manifest.

It seems the main difficulty Pakistan, or any other developing country, faces in its efforts to develop an enduring understanding with the United States is the latter's inability to present a world-view acceptable to its partners and its tendency to see the world divided into watertight compartments which can be dealt with differently in different time-spans. The politics of confrontation with the rival camp cannot substitute a vision of happier mankind; it may be the foremost problem before the United States but not necessarily so for the developing countries. Similarly, the Third World has genuine difficulties in accepting the theory of spheres of influence. Concretely this means that the developing countries, Pakistan included, are more interested in progress towards peace, an international economic order that affords them the maximum opportunities of development, and a coordinated flow of technology. It is a pity that identity of views on these crucial issues was not considered worthy of attention during Gen. Ziaul Haq's American tour. Similarly, the U.S. expects its friends to ignore the contradictions between its policies of total support for Israel and South Africa or its stand at North-South sessions and their principled and unshakable commitment to the Palestinian cause, the eradication of racialism, and the evolution of a New International Economic Order, in consideration for limited agreements in other regions and on other issues. But such agreements cannot furnish the basis of a long-term concord, because the issues giving rise to them have been found to be of a transitory nature. They be-

come irrelevant the moment the underlying issue is resolved or the United States alters its strategy. There is nothing to suggest that the factors which are said to have necessitated a special relationship between Pakistan and the United States are going to be there for ever. Indeed, Pakistan should be the last country to wish for their perpetuation.

Obviously, the Pakistan-U.S. friendship has better chances to flourish to mutual good if it is not based on the two countries' short-term perceptions but takes into account the shape the world will acquire in the decades to come.

CSO: 4600/203



# DEBATE ON FOREIGN LOANS VOICES REPUDIATION DEMAND

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 23 Dec 82 p 27

[Text]

THE Pakistan Education and Research Forum had invited Dr. Moeen-uddin Baqai, Secretary, Planning Commission, to a discussion of Foreign Aid at the Pakistan Centre in Lahore's Al-Falah building last week. The meeting developed into an all-out attack on the developing countries' addiction to foreign loans and poor Dr. Baqai was left alone on the floor, ineffectively swatting at the darts fired at him.

Omar Asghar and Akmal Husain, teachers at the Punjab University, led the attack, the first with a fiery paper, the second with a cool dialectic that exposed the futility of the philosophy behind foreign aid. M. Masood (Khaddar) mocked at the Civil servant's amateurish handling of the economy of the country and exposed, as it were, the conspiracy of the mediocre from within. A.H. Kardar walked up from the audience and pointed the accusing finger while the house generally appeared full of disgust and dismay which the quest did nothing to remove at the end.

## Economic conquest

Omar Asghar's paper bemoaned the gradual conquest of Pakistan by the West through the economic device of aid: 9 billion dollars which cannot be repayed and for whose servicing we are compelled to borrow an additional billion dollars yearly from the consortium. IMF, a US-dominated fiscal institution, made us devalue the rupee during the Bhutto regime and threw our textile industry into turmoil

(Dr. Mubashar Hassan, present in the front rows, kept quiet) and is now whittling down our economic sovereignty in return for 1.7 billion dollars worth of loans. Subsidies are being removed, rupee is once again being devalued by floating it against the dollar, imports are being liberalised and labour laws are being bent in favour of the capitalist. Every newborn baby carries a personal tab of Rs. 1500 as its share of foreign liability.

## Repudiate the loans

Umar Asghar demanded a revolution in institutions and asked that the loans be repudiated. Dr. Akmal Husain advised against such an emotional dare and stated that, while 11 billion dollars worth loans will not demolish the international financial institutions, the result of such a refusal to pay up would be sanctions against Pakistan by powerful Western states. He instead criticised the philosophy behind development models that posited foreign loans as supplement to low-level domestic saving. He explained with a diagram that instead of supplementing domestic savings loans actually supplanted them. He proposed that Pakistan mobilise domestic resources, increase productivity, especially in the agricultural sector and embark on a campaign of self-reliance. But such a revolution in agriculture could come only after far-ranging land reforms, a paring down of big holdings that allowed landlords to consume con-

spicuously which in turn required a change in the power elites in Pakistan.

Dr. Baqai could easily demolish all these arguments by exposing their lack of practicability and by pointing to the constraints he as a civil servant has to work under. But he chose instead to deploy the tiresome arguments of the North-South debate no one was willing to hear: let the international financial institutions be reformed and let the West bring down its tariff barriers to enable Pakistan to repay the loans in kind. He pointed to OPEC and ADB and appealed that their example should be followed to erect an equitable international structure of economic relations. Since everyone knew that the North-South rhetoric was not getting Pakistan anywhere, Dr. Baqai's words sounded empty and lacking in conviction. When A.H. Kardar asked him why the civil servant was importing push-button projects and eschewing reliance

on local expertise, he pointed out that two new fertiliser plants and the heavy mechanical complex at Taxila were being built with local engineering. At this point, Hayat Ahmad Khan riposted by disclosing that the Taxila complex was a total Chinese production. Dr. Baqai's other assertion that no more push-button projects were being planned by him was belied by Tasneem, an NFC chartered accountant.

The Secretary Planning Commission had obviously not come prepared for such an onslaught. He did not have his facts and figures and was obviously upset by the ones quoted by the speakers. His Urdu, normally good, therefore, faltered and cast his presentation in an unfavourable light. Dr. Baqai should come again to the forum, this time equipped with better arguments so that a legitimate public debate, fast fading from our midst, may be properly conducted.—JANUS

CSO: 4600/203

NWFP GOVERNOR DISCREDITS COMMUNISTS, LEFTISTS

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 23 Dec 82 p 15

[Text]

THE NWFP Governor, Lt.-Gen. Fazle Haq, addressing a public meeting at Dir on Dec. 15, has asked the people not to be misled by the "malicious propaganda" of a handful of "disruptive elements" against the Afghan refugees.

"These elements are not happy over the fraternal and brotherly Muhajir-Ansar relations between the Afghans and the Pakistanis", Gen. Fazle Haq added.

He emphasised that these elements were bent upon disrupting the "peaceful atmosphere" in the country.

'Taught a lesson'

Gen. Fazle Haq also referred to the struggle launched by some Leftists in Malakand Agency some time back and declared: "Those handful of communists were taught a lesson they will remember for generations".

Raising his voice, he said that there would be no room for any secular, socialist, communist, anarchist or fifth columnist in the Zakat and Ushr Committee.

"We will not allow them to meet their political and subversive ends by utilising the sacred wealth of Zakat and Ushr", the Governor added.

He claimed that some "undesirable" people were trying to infiltrate into the Zakat and Ushr Committees for ulterior motives.

# DAY OF INFAMY RECALLED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 30 Dec 82 p 7

[Text]

**MOST** nations — including ours — like to avoid frequent reminders of unhappy events, particularly happenings that are said to relate to national disgrace. But this year many publicists in Pakistan have harked back to the fall of Dacca, referring to December 16, 1971, as the Day of Infamy.

The pain and mortification widely felt eleven years ago have been revived and old wounds reopened. A great deal has been written or said about domestic conspiracies and foreign intervention, tales recounted of acts of perfidy or loyalty, of bestiality or decency. Some have hinted at the sufferings of the people involved on both sides in clashes that developed into a civil war; but largely the human aspect of what occurred has been overlooked. However, what needs to be understood and accepted is that, while the fateful day should certainly be recalled and the lessons it offers taken to heart, this exercise cannot be meaningful if attention is focussed only on the final tragic denouement, and its beginning — on March 25, 1971 — is forgotten.

## Main determinant

It should be realized that, whatever the other factors that influenced the course of our history in that dismal year, the main determinant was the policy evolved by a power-hungry, besotted dictator. A relentless pursuit of his nefarious design prompted the refusal to accept the verdict given by the people in the country's first free general election, his decision to postpone sine die the newly-elected parliament's first session, his intrigues before, during and after the elections with various brands of politicians in order to retain effective power in his own hands. And the inebriated moron's final stupid act of seeking a military solution to a political problem, suddenly breaking off political talks

and the harsh methods used to achieve this unattainable end, whatever there was of internal treachery could have been dest-

royed and alien interference discouraged, prevented or defeated.

In order to ensure that this part of our history is never repeated, its lessons must be learnt by all who are genuinely concerned about the country's future. The tears and lamentation witnessed during 1971 need to be remembered, but the remembrance should not be expressed in maudlin sentimentality. It is far more important and vital that we sift the facts and analyse the developments that drove Pakistan inexorably towards disastrous dismemberment. Objective study and appraisal must be undertaken by the country's scholars who should devote themselves to the task seriously, organize seminars, hold discussions, so that the people can be allowed to understand what went wrong and why.

This effort should be encouraged by the Government. First, by lifting the veil of the Official Secrets Act and making available all relevant reports, intelligence data, and minutes of relevant Cabinet meetings, so that the whole truth can be brought to light. A good start in this direction could be made by release of the Hamoodur Rehman Commission's Report, something which has been promised by the present Government as well as by its predecessor.

CSO: 4600/203

## 'TOLERABLE LIMIT' URGED IN INCREASING PRICES

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 7

[Text]

AN out-of-season increase in the prices of natural gas and petroleum products has understandably led to popular concern about all-round inflationary consequences. The "revision" has been officially vindicated as being a sequel to depreciation of rupee value after its delinking from the U.S. dollar. But added to this necessity is the provision for financing the cost of development of gas and oilfields, which, too, has been cited as a factor for the price revision. It has been explained that the increase should not be linked with the budget. Nor is this to be classified as a mini-budget, a device with which we have learnt to live for many years. The insistence on not calling it a mini-budget reminds one of the assertion after the rupee was freed from the US dollar last year that it was not a case of devaluation. It is undeniable that the net cost for gathering funds to finance the cost of development of gas and oilfields falls in the region of general taxation and would call for a different rationale altogether. Calling it by a different name does not alter the basic fact that people have to

pay more for commodities and services partly for reasons other than economic. If additional finance is needed, for gas and oilfields development, the prescribed method is to borrow or resort to taxation, instead of camouflaging it in a misnomer of price revision. From this point of view, the mode and the extent of increases cannot be easily justified. The measure goes beyond the logic of immediate necessity. However, the price rise had been expected for some months and had also been speculated upon from time to time, though it cannot still be absorbed with unruffled calm.

While petrol will be costlier by 0.55 paisa per litre, commercial consumers of natural gas will pay Rs. 3.34 more per thousand cubic feet, raising the cost of a thousand cubic feet of gas from Rs. 22 to Rs. 25.34. The official spokesman has promised that the Government would keep a watch on the prices of "items produced by industries affected by the revised prices" and would not let the prices rise out of proportion. This should be a larger enterprise than would appear

from the Government's assurance, for items affected by the increase will not be restricted to the output of the industrial consumers of oil and gas. As leaders of trade, industry and public opinion have pointed out, the prices are likely to increase in most sectors. Primarily, additional price of petroleum products will affect transportation which, in turn, will affect almost everything else. This is going to take us towards a general escalation of costs and prices, since prices of all imports and import-related goods have already risen owing to currency depreciation. A consequent pressure for wage increase could propel inflation. Official checks on prices have traditionally been ineffectual and it will take a lot of doing to restrict the impact of the present move. There is apprehension that KESC, already charging discriminatory power rates from its commercial consumers, will enhance its fuel adjustment charges. That should be checked. A number of other moves may be necessary to ensure that the expected sympathetic rise in prices is kept within tolerable limits.



KHWAJA SAFDAR STRESSES POSITIVE APPROACH FOR HOLDING ELECTIONS

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 12

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Jan 10: Khwaja Mohammad Safdar, Chairman, Majlis-i-Shoora, said here on Monday that general election could be held in the country "even today" if the politicians adopted a positive approach.

He was delivering his presidential address at the Quaid-i-Azam University, following a debate on the subject, "elections are not a solution to the country's problems." The contest was arranged as a part of Students' Week programme arranged by the Students Union of the university.

Khwaja Safdar said that solution to the political problems lay in the understanding of each other's views. He said democracy taught how to accommodate difference of opinion, and that sentimental approach could never help resolve differences. On the other hand, he added, it further widened the gulf, and fanned hatred.

Khwaja Safdar said Pakistan was the creation of democracy and he

believed that its survival lay in strengthening democratic institutions. Alien institutions like the Western democracy could not be applied in its existing form. Adjustments and changes, he said could be effected in the system to tailor it according to the national aspirations in Pakistan.

He said the protagonists of Western democracy themselves believed that the system was not free from defects, but all the same, it was still better than other systems.

Khwaja Safdar warned that a coterie of people was bent upon harming the national interests through recourse to bloodshed instead of a peaceful change by ballot.

He stressed the need for creating a congenial atmosphere conducive to holding of elections, because a healthy change through ballot could not take place in an environment charged with threats of violence and bloodshed.—APP

CSO: 4600/213

# JOINT VENTURES OFFERED BY KUWAIT TRADERS

Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 12

[Text]

LAHORE, Jan 11: The Pakistan Overseas Business Federation in Kuwait has offered multi-million dollar joint-venture projects to the Pakistani businessmen.

The Federation has put forth various proposals, for consideration of the Government as well as the private sector to devise ways and means to increase exports from Pakistan and to establish mutually funded industrial units in both the countries.

Currently, a seven-member delegation of the Federation led by Mr Anwar Chaudhary is on a tour of Pakistan. The delegation visited the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry today. The leader of the delegation said that the purpose of delegation's visit to Pakistan was to increase Pakistan's exports to Kuwait and to set up profitable ventures. He assured the Chamber that the repatriation of

profit and capital from Kuwait was guaranteed by law and as such the investors from Pakistan can derive benefits from this facility.

He, however, suggested that certain travel restrictions by the Pakistan authorities should be removed to enable businessmen to explore the untapped market of Kuwait. He said there was great demand of fresh vegetables and fruits, food stuffs, spare-parts and catering items etc. Earlier, the President of the Lahore Chamber, Mr Abdul Qayyum Bhatti, suggested that visa restrictions by the Kuwait Government should be relaxed for businessmen. He said, chambers in Pakistan were ready to persuade the PIA to arrange additional direct flights from various parts of Pakistan provided the Kuwaiti entrepreneurs assured them of sufficient bulk of cargo from that side.

CSO: 4600/214

# RUPEE DELINKING BLAMED FOR PRICE INCREASE, FALL IN EXPORTS

Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 4

[Text]

\* LAHORE, Jan 11: Floatation of the Pakistan rupee has increased prices of essential commodities and industrial inputs by about 55 per cent and decreased exports by about one hundred per cent during the last one year since the delinking of the Pakistan currency with the dollar.

The Government should consider whether its decision on "orthodox devaluation" has provided any sustenance to national economy or proved instrumental for announcement of mini budgets for fresh increase in prices.

These views were expressed by representatives of the local trade and industry while recording their comments on the Federal Cabinet's decision to increase prices of gas and oil.

In this connection, the President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr Abdul Qayyum Bharti, said the Government should decide once for all to give "a big shock to the common man instead of adopting a lengthy and constant procedure of shock therapy." He criticised the decision-makers and alleged that they were all out to bulldoze the country's economy.

Before taking any decision on price-hike, the Government should also take the people into confidence, he added.

The Chamber chief said that the

rate of Pakistani currency was not being fixed genuinely as was required by laws of currency floatation.

The President of the Lahore Stock Exchange, Mr Obaidullah, demanded that the decision on the delinking of the Pakistan rupee should be reconsidered. He said the decision of the Federal Cabinet would certainly lead to increase in prices of essential commodities by over 55 per cent, as a result of which it would be difficult for the common man to make both ends meet.

Mr Obaidullah maintained that the indirect impact of the increase in the rates of gas and oil would be much greater than expected, and it would further affect the volume of our exports.

The President of the Gujranwala Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Maulvi Mohammad Anwar, who was on a visit to the city, when contacted, said the decision of the Federal Cabinet would upset Production schedules of industrial sector. He said the business community had time and again made representations to the Government not to make mini-budgets, but it seemed that nothing could convince the policy makers. He maintained that following the Cabinet decision, exports would further suffer and prices of essential commodities would go up.

PLEA TO MAINTAIN EXPORT GOODS QUALITY

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 4

[Text]

MULTAN, Jan 10: Mr Hamid D. Habib, Adviser to President on Foreign Trade has said that the Government is taking all possible steps to promote trade, and export of various commodities and industrial products of Pakistan to foreign countries.

Mr Habib, who is also the Chairman of the Export Promotion Bureau, was delivering his speech while presiding over the second meeting of the Board of Administrators of Export Market Development Fund here yesterday.

He said the quality and standard of Pakistan manufactured goods was equally important for maintaining the prestige and honour of the country and also increasing the demand, and retaining markets in the world.

The meeting which was also attended by Sheikh Ishrat Ali, Adviser to President on Internal Trade, Chairman of various Chambers of Commerce and Industry

and high officials of the Export Promotion Bureau reviewed the activities and achievements of the EPB and discussed a number of proposals pertaining to, the opening of new branch offices of Export Promotion and their registration as export houses, constitution of export promotion committees, provision of shipping, railway and air transport facilities for exporters, Pakistan's participation in the international trade fairs and exhibitions, organising of leather and carpet shows in Karachi and Lahore by the Export Promotion Bureau, integrated export promotion and market development, and several other administrative matters. The activities of the Design Institute and Project Directorate were also reviewed at the meeting.

The Board of Administrators was informed that the Pakistan single-country exhibition entitled Industrial Dimension of Pakistan will be held in Jeddah from Jan 25 to Feb 5

CSO: 4600/213

## IMMEDIATE OPENING OF KHOKHRAPAR ROUTE URGED

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 7

[Text]

IT HAS been well over fifteen years since the Khokhrapar route to India was shut down but, whereas the reasons which led to it are part of history now, there are few signs that the route is being reopened. Several appeals have been made that the route be reopened but there has been little response from official circles. The latest move has come from a political party, which is going to launch a drive from January 12 to collect a million signatures — at least that is what has been said — on a petition asking for the re-opening of the route. The petition will later be taken to Islamabad. According to the Vice-President of the defunct political party in question several representations have been made to the highest government quarters in this connection but with no result. Although it has been reported that work on customs

and immigration and other offices is being done at the checkpoint, no official decision has as yet been taken. The proponents of the petition move are right in contending that if it is in the 'public interest' — and it is not possible to figure what it might be — not to open the route; then the public should be informed about it. Official taciturnity has become a fashion, and there is no reason why people should not be told of the reason why they have to go to so much trouble to get to India.

There is no disputing the fact that a hideous amount of trouble is caused by the continued closure of the Khokhrapar route. By far the majority of the people visiting India to meet their near and dear ones live in Sind, and the destination of most of these is also in southern and central India. This means that, instead of taking the logical route through Khokhrapar, they have, instead, to travel all the way north to Lahore and

then work their way down again. This is not only an extremely tiring and tedious journey, it is also time-consuming and expensive. It would have been understandable if there was any sound reason for the rigour and hardship that people have to undergo in visiting their relations in India. But in the absence of any stated reason, it is very unjustified to subject them to such difficulties. India appears to have no objection to the re-opening of the Khokhrapar route. In fact, the Indian Consul-General in Karachi stated in August last year that New Delhi was prepared to reopen the route and that efforts were being made in this direction. If this is so, there should be no reason for foot-dragging on this side over the matter. There is not much work involved in it and the volume of traffic certainly justifies making this route operational.

# NATIONAL SYNDICATE DISCUSSES NUTRITION PROBLEMS

Karachi DAWN in English 10 Jan 83 p 1

[Article by Hasan Akhtar]

[Excerpt]

ISLAMABAD, Jan 9: The food balance sheet for 1982-83 indicates that although the average per capita calorie (2352 cal.) and protein (61 grams) intake is satisfactory, there still exists widespread malnutrition in Pakistan, especially among infants, pre-school children, pregnant women and lactating mothers who can be regarded as the most vulnerable group.

The problem of malnutrition was considered on Saturday at a meeting of the National Nutrition Syndicate under the chairmanship of Dr. Mahbubul Haq, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission with a view to plan nutrition programmes and projects for the Sixth 5-Year Plan, due to begin on July 1 this year.

Dr. Haq presented a comprehensive brief on the nutrition situation in the country and pointed out that very little had been done so far to improve the situation and no major programme is currently under way. He said that the problem was multidisciplinary and nutrition as such cannot be dealt in isolation. The programmes involved income generation, health, education and food etc. However, some of the intervention programmes related to the groups suffering from one or other form of malnutrition required immediate attention, he said.

Dr. Haq also emphasised that although the information available was sketchy there was enough data available to plan a national nutrition strategy for the Sixth Plan.

He said targets have already been set for the uplift of women. Special programmes in health, education and agriculture will eventually help improve the nutrition situation.

About specific intervention programmes, the Deputy Chairman said they should be chalked out to supplement the development effort to overcome the problem of malnutrition.

He said the slow implementation of the programmes/projects relating to nutrition was because of the absence of a proper forum in which issues relating to nutrition could be discussed.

The programmes/projects objectives were not achieved or would not be achieved due to lack of proper infrastructure at various levels, he said. Thus emphasis was laid on institutionalizing nutrition activities.



## INDEPENDENT PLANNING BODY SET UP

Karachi DAWN in English 10 Jan 83 pp 1, 10

[Text]

LAHORE, Jan 9: Former Federal Finance Minister Mubashir Hassan announced today the formation of a body to be known as Independent Planning Commission of Pakistan (IPCP) to recommend "a general policy framework and to prepare, in outline, a comprehensive sixth plan for the economic development of Pakistan."

With Dr Mubashir Hassan as its convener, the commission will function as a non-political organisation and operate on a no profit and voluntary basis to finalise the outline of the sixth plan in about two years.

Giving details of IPCP at a Press conference, Dr Hassan said the commission proposed to proceed on the premises that Pakistan was well endowed both with human and material resources to exist as an independent sovereign State, wipe out poverty and backwardness and to move ahead for rapid economic development.

He said the IPCP believed that four factors seriously hampered economic development of the country: (1) general social and cultural backwardness, (2) unequal rights and opportunities for women, (3) draining away of national

wealth to foreign countries through unequal trade terms and disadvantageous terms for financial and technological dealings, and (4) unequal state of development of various regions and provinces of the country.

Asked why he had decided to set up a commission when an official Planning Commission already existed, he said he believed that the country had failed to make the desired progress as the planning in the past had not been very careful. The Government commission, he said, had its drawbacks and it was bound by certain strings and terms. The IPCP proposed to give a shape to the overall planning, he added.

Asked whether he intended to seek services and assistance of other experts, he said he would seek opinion of intellectuals and media on the four-point working hypothesis enunciated by the commission.

He, however, made it clear that IPCP would not pursue any particular approach — it would welcome guidance from any quarter. Although at this stage he had taken up the arduous task all by himself, he had been assured of assistance by many friends.

## Foreign loan

In reply to a question, Dr Hassan said he was not opposed to the idea of seeking foreign loans. In fact, almost all the countries, including the United States, UK, India and even China sought loans. Pakistan, however, must ensure that the terms for loans were in its own interest and not in those of loan-giving agencies.

Answering another question, he said the plan being drawn up by the IPCP would not be socialistic in outlook — it would be basically a nationalist and egalitarian, aiming at promoting national development. In this connection he made a reference to India which, he said, agreed to only those terms which protected its interest.

In reply to another question, Dr Hassan said he would be happy to meet Dr Mahbubul Haq to discuss as to what extent the latter would agree to the basic philosophy of the IPCP.

He said that in Pakistan there would have to be wide scope for free enterprise, and added that the 1973 Constitution provided such a framework.

PILOT PROJECT FOR ARID LAND DEVELOPMENT LAUNCHED

Karachi DAWN in English 10 Jan 83 p 8

[Text] The Sind Forest Department is implementing a multiple land use pilot project for the development and management of arid land in the province, says a handout.

At present, 21,600 sq miles of arable land is lying idle. President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq has given a special grant of Rs 10 million for this purpose.

The main objectives of the project are: rationalisation of land use in arid land according to land capability for the multiple land use practices like agriculture, livestock rearing, soil and water conservation, range and wildlife development.

The plan envisages establishment of technical and socio-economic guidelines for the integrated rural development of arid land.

Facilities are being provided to make livestock stationary instead of being migratory. Increase production of fodder crops and natural feed will eliminate migratory tendencies. Efforts are being made to ensure improved indigenous breeding, cross-breeding, artificial insemination, building of selective herds, improvement of veterinary services and encouraging private ranching and providing necessary technical know-how.

CSO: 4600/212

## NATIONAL TALENT POOL DATA COMPILED

Karachi DAWN in English 10 Jan 83 p 12

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Jan 9: The National Talent Pool has compiled detailed biodata of over 45,000 highly qualified persons in medical, engineering, science, agriculture, administrative education, social sciences and Chartered/Cost Accountancy fields and started operating services of a Central Clearing House for referring panels of suitable persons to public and private sectors and Overseas Employment Corporation for their employment abroad.

The National Talent Pool was established under the Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis Department in 1976 for the compilation of particulars of highly qualified persons for employment. The data thus compiled was also intended to provide facts for manpower planning, employment promotion and streamlining education and training programmes for scientific and technical manpower.

The particulars of M.A/M.Sc and Chartered/Cost Accountants are being compiled and to-date the particulars of about 20,000 have been compiled. The data collection work is still in progress.

The data could serve many other useful purposes. The Federal

Ministries/Divisions and Provincial Governments have been informed of the services available with the National Talent Pool.

The scheme "Regular Visits of Pakistani Experts Positioned Abroad to Pakistan" is being implemented by the National Talent Pool. Under this scheme, short-duration visits of four to eight weeks of Pakistani experts serving abroad have been arranged on regular basis to impart as much of their knowledge as they can to their less experienced colleagues in Pakistan in their respective fields of specialisation in the form of lectures, discussions and seminars.

Four hundred and ninety-two Pakistani experts have been registered from all over the world including 208 experts from the United States of America. Sixty-two experts of international repute have just completed their assignments in Pakistan.

Attractive incentives are offered to an expert visiting Pakistan like return air-ticket, daily allowance, free transport, medical facilities, and minimum honorarium Rs. 1,000 per week.

Before arrival of the expert, his

case is scrutinised by a Subject Specialist Panel about the assessment of suitability of the expert. If approved, his case is considered for approval by the Government.

Keeping in view the criticism of falling educational standards, visible unemployment of university graduates in some disciplines, and visible shortage in others, a "Career Guidance Programme" is being developed by the National Talent Pool to provide a package deal. It would include programme of guidance for the students, labour market information, employment promotion, feedback to universities for regular enrolment and the improvement of educational standards and scope for employment.

Under this programme, the employment performance of the post-graduates of past year would be prepared for the guidance of the students seeking admission.

The programme would aim at making timely information available to job-seekers. The information available in guide-book, identifying the establishments in the public and private sectors, would be extremely helpful for securing suitable employment. —APP

# SIGNATURE DRIVE PLANNED TO DEMAND OPENING OF KHOKHRAPAR ROUTE TO INDIA

Karachi DAWN in English 10 Jan 83 p 12

[Text]

A million-signature scroll drive for opening the Khokhrapar rail-road route to India will be launched from Jan. 12 in Karachi and other parts of Sind. Mr. Mahmoodul Haq Usmani, Vice-President of the defunct Pakistan Muslim League (Kairuddin group), said in Karachi yesterday.

The signature campaign will start from Hyderabad and Mirpurkhas and will last 15 days. Later, a delegation will proceed to Islamabad and deliver it in person to the concerned authorities.

Mr. Usmani was confident that the campaign, though sponsored by the defunct PML, will have the backing of every citizen.

At the Press talk, Khwaja Khairuddin was also present. The newsmen gave the lead by signing on a printed form.

Khwaja Khairuddin said that the decision to launch the "Open Khokhrapar Route" campaign was taken in November last at a joint meeting of the defunct PML's Sind Provincial and Karachi Zonal branches.

Mr. Usmani said that President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq had been requested several times to consider the advisability of opening the Khokhrapar route for the convenience of those visiting places in south India.

Though reports had stated that

work on the Customs, Immigration and other necessary offices at the Khokhrapar checkpoint was underway, no final decision to open the route had yet been taken, he said.

He urged the Government to take the people into confidence if it was "In the public interest" not to open the Khokhrapar route. "They, I am sure, will be satisfied and will gladly bear their personal inconvenience for the greater cause of the country."

He, however, pointed out that in view of the improved relations between India and Pakistan as well as the liberalised visa and travel facilities through Wagah checkpoint, it was strange that the Khokhrapar route should remain closed despite repeated public demand.

Mr. Usmani said that 90 per cent of displaced persons from India, who visit their relations, lived in Sind. They have, perforce, to undertake 24-hour rail journey from Karachi to Lahore to travel another 72 hours through Wagah border to the destination in South India.

He estimated that every year the people from Sind visiting India spend about Rs. 400 million on such journeys along with the aged, children and the womenfolk.

"The well-to-do can afford air travel but the poor are forced to take a round-about route via Wagah much to their discomfort."

## COMMENTARY DISCUSSES SUGAR PROBLEMS, NORMALIZATION WITH INDIA

Karachi DAWN in English 10 Jan 83 p 7

[Article by M.A. Mansuri]

[Excerpt]

The sugar industry is reported to be facing a strange problem. It has produced a large surplus but does not know what to do with it. It cannot sell the surplus in the international market because its cost of production is 400 dollars a tonne, while the international price is less than 220 dollar. The storage capacity is extremely short of the requirement. Last year's production was around 12.75 lakh tonnes and this year it is expected to be more. The Government and the sugar industry are now reported to be working out an arrangement to export one lakh tonnes and share the losses equally. The industry representatives also want that their open-sale quota in the country be increased, enabling them to meet their losses on export. The Punjab Government, meanwhile, has banned the manufacture of 'Gur' in areas close to sugar mills to ensure that their sugarcane supplies are not affected. Who will gain and who will lose from this formula is for economic experts to work out — not, one hopes, in the manner in which rise in cost of living and GDP, are calculated.

The initial results of a serious move to normalise relations with India are slowly becoming evident — Sikh pilgrims making regular visits to their holy shrines in Pakistan and being frequently received at the highest level, or the sports-lovers enthusiastic response to Indian cricketers' fine performance in the current series or a

steady stream of Indian journalists visiting Islamabad for one-the-spot assessments and interviews with the President. But bureaucratic attitudes at times tend to put these good efforts at naught. The Indian Embassy in Islamabad claims to be issuing an average of 300-400 visas daily to Pakistanis for visiting their blood relations in India. Incidentally normally, the only ground acceptable for obtaining visas between the two countries is surviving family relations on the other side. During the last 35 years such relations have been on the decline with nature taking its toll, and much fewer families have now blood relations in the other country.

But even then, it is strange that the Indian embassy in Islamabad should at times choose to apply its discretion rather arbitrarily. One such instance in recent weeks was of a colleague who is also President of the Rawalpindi Union of Journalists. His visa application has failed to receive a positive response even a month and a half after it was submitted, while in most cases the embassy claims it issues visas in a day. What is more perplexing for the journalist colleague is the fact that he had visited Delhi in 1981 and 1980 without any problem after having served about three years as an APP Correspondent in Delhi (1956-59). The exception in the present case looks somewhat at odds with the general pattern of issuing visas.

## GAS, PETROLEUM COMMERCIAL PRICES INCREASED

Karachi DAWN in English 10 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] Rawalpindi, Jan 9--The Federal Cabinet on Sunday decided to revise the prices of natural gas and petroleum products for commercial consumers.

The Federal Finance Secretary, Mr H.U. Baig, giving details of the decision at a Press briefing said the prices of natural gas for domestic consumers, kerosene oil, a poor man's item, and lubricating diesel oil (L.D.O.) used for tubewells for agricultural purposes, will remain unchanged.

The increase on Regular and Super Petrol was to the extent of 0.55 paisa per litre.

	<u>Existing Increase</u>	<u>Revised Prices</u>	<u>Proposed Prices</u>
<b>GAS</b>	<u>(Rs/thousand cubic feet)</u>		
1. Commercial consumers	22.00	3.34	25.34
2. Industrial and Cement Factories	13.00	3.34	16.34
3. Fertiliser factories (commodity charge)	10.00	3.34	13.34
4. KESC WAPDA (except Faisalabad and Multan stations)	12.00	3.34	15.34
5. WAPDA (commodity charge)	10.02	3.34	13.36
<b>PETROLEUM</b>	<u>(Rs/Litre)</u>		
1. Motor Gasoline	5.45	0.55	6.10
2. HOBC	6.75	0.55	7.30



	<u>Existing Increase</u>	<u>Revised Prices</u>	<u>Proposed Prices</u>
3. Kerosene	2.75	--	2.75
4. HSD	3.45	0.55	4.00
5. LDO	2.75	--	2.75
6. JP-1 (PIA domestic)	4.36	0.35	4.71
7. JP-1 (PIA international)	4.59	0.35	4.94
8. JP-1 (Foreign airlines and others)	4.59	0.35	4.94
9. JP-4	4.59	0.35	3.75
10. Lube base oil	3.40	0.35	6.95
11. Asphalt (metric ton) (Average)	2500	300	2800
12. Furnace oil (metric ton)	1350	370	1720

The Federal Secretary said the revision of gas and petroleum prices was necessitated by the depreciation in rupee value due to delinking from the US dollar and to finance the cost of development of gas and oil fields.

He said Rs 220 crore were required for the further development of Sui gas fields while Rs 100 crore would be spent on the development of gas fields at Pir Koh.

The Secretary said that the Government would keep a watch on the prices of the items produced by industries affected by the revised prices and would not let the prices go out of proportion. He said it was a policy of the present Government to pass on to the consumers the gas and oil products on the cost basis.

In this regard, he said the Government has not enhanced the prices of the products used by common consumers.

Replying to a question, he said this revision should not be linked with the budget. This is not a mini-budget, he explained.

Answering a question, he said the Government could not purchase oil from the spot market even if the price is low there, because of the contracts with petroleum exporting countries. If we purchase oil from the spot market, the contract will be broken.--APP/PPI

CSO: 4600/212

# GAS SHORTAGE SAID TO HIT INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 8

[Text]

The Manghopir (SITE) Association of Trade and Industry yesterday strongly protested at the low pressure in natural gas pipes, and pointed out that factories were starved of fuel and this could cause an economic crisis.

Continuous shortage of natural gas in the SITE area for the last few days has adversely affected production of commodities like ghee, glass, medicines, paints etc and the industrial units are finding it very difficult to cope with the situation.

Textile industry is also likely to suffer, causing serious harm to the national economy as a whole.

The Association urged the concerned Ministry to issue immediate instructions to the authorities at Sui and elsewhere to maintain the pressure and supply gas in enough quantity to Karachi Gas Company so that the latter is able to fulfil its

obligations towards the consumers.—PPI

Our staff reporter adds: The problem has particularly upset the cooking schedules of the housewives, hotels, restaurants and eating houses.

Worst affected are the thousands of workers who depend on eating houses for lunch or tea and cannot get hot "nans" or tea.

Since the complaint about low pressure is generally reported around mid-day, ovens and kitchens cannot work and employees of major commercial establishments which work till afternoon are also affected.

Tehrik-i-Yadgar-i-Shohda-i-Pakistan has sent telegrams to concerned authorities complaining about non-availability or poor pressure of gas in several areas of Liaquatabad around mid-day.

CSO: 4600/214

# WITHDRAWAL OF PETROL PRICE INCREASE URGED

Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 12

[Text]

The All-Pakistan Motor Transport Federation, in a meeting held here yesterday, has demanded the Government to withdraw recent increase in prices of petrol and diesel and enhanced regulatory duty on imported tyres and tubes.

The Federation also demanded remedial action against exorbitant fines and challans and withdrawal of recent increase in Registration fees.

It demanded that the private sector of transport be given the same concessions as Government transport.

The Federation felt that increase in fares would not solve the problems but instead the common man will have to suffer more.

The meeting agreed that if Government failed to respond to their demands transporters from Karachi to Khyber will fix a date and surrender their vehicles to the Government.

The meeting held at the office of Karachi Bus Owners Association was attended by President, Karachi Bus Owners Association, Ch. Muhammad Ismail and Secretary, Irshad Hussain, President, Karachi Rickshaw, Taxi, Minibus Federation, Haji Abdul Malik, and Secretary, Ajmal Afridi, and General Secretary, Sind and

Baluchistan Transport Association, Syed G. M. Shah, Haji Mohammad Iqbal from Lahore, and Ayub Mohsin from Rawalpindi.

The Federation's President, Ali Asghar Shah, chaired the meeting.—PPL

Mr. Mahmood Azam Farouqi, a leader of the defunct Jamaat-i-Islami, yesterday urged the Federal Government to withdraw its decision to raise the gas and petroleum prices as it would cause further inflation and hit the common people hard.

In a statement he said it was a "lame excuse" to find cover behind the depreciation value of the rupee as a result of its delinking from the US dollar. He reminded the Government of the assurance held out at the time of rupee delinking that it would not affect the economy adversely.

Mr. Farouqi pointed out that the price of bread baked on the gas stove has become dearer, while the rickshaw drivers have already started charging extra from Re 1 to Rs. 3.

He feared that increase in the gas and petroleum prices would affect the cost of industrial production and also escalate the rates of travel and transportation.

# NEW PETROL PRICES ENFORCED; REACTIONS REPORTED

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 1

[Excerpt]

The increase by 0.55 paisa per litre in the prices of petroleum announced by the Federal Government on Sunday evening was enforced by the dealers yesterday morning.

Some of them, who had heard of the news on radio, had started charging enhanced rates late Sunday evening.

The motor gasoline prices, now revised, have come up to a level which is, perhaps, the highest in the region, dealers said.

All the previous enhancements in the prices of petroleum products were attributed to the OPEC's action in raising the prices of crude oil.

This time, however, the reason ascribed is that additional funds are needed for financing the cost of development of gas and oil fields. Besides, revision of prices has been necessitated by depreciation in the rupee value due to delinking from the US dollar.

Meanwhile, Karachi's business and industrial circles seemed taken aback by the Government's decision.

Though they had since long been accustomed to "mini-budgetary decisions", a view commonly expressed was that contrary to assurances of the Federal Finance Secretary that "the prices (of consumer goods) would not go out of proportion," the tendency of sympathetic rise in the level of prices could not be ruled out.

Haji Razzak Janoo, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said that increase in the prices of natural gas and petroleum products, though it is claimed to be for commercial purposes only,

would "inevitably" escalate the cost of production. The overall effect on the cost of living will, in turn, be adverse, he added.

Mr. Yusuf Zia and Mr. Tariq Saeed, President and Vice-President respectively of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry, have criticised the underlying concept of meeting additional funds by raising the rates of public utility services.

Prof. Ghafoor Ahmad, Sarder Sherbaz Mazari and Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi slated the bureaucracy for "overburdening" the common man with "direct and indirect taxation the year around."

## GAS SUPPLY IN KARACHI SAID WORSENING

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 1

[Text]

Complaints of lack of pressure and at times of non-availability of natural gas in Karachi have continued for some weeks and there are no positive signs yet of any significant improvement in the situation soon.

Besides the huge 60 mmcf/d gap in demand (240 mmcf/d) and supply (180 mmcf/d), the new element which has made things worse is the overdrawal by Pakistan Steel and some cut in the share to feed the newly-commissioned Quetta pipeline.

Some other bulk consumers were also stated to be consuming more than their share.

Pakistan Steel was reported to have exceeded its quota of 26 mcf/d, and was "firmly told" yesterday (Jan 11) to confine to its share.

Letters have also gone to at least 45 big industrial consumers to cut down their consumption of natural gas and results may be visible in a couple of days.

The Quetta pipeline is being fed by cuts in the share of various regions, Karachi's share being about two million cubic feet daily, these sources said.

The Federal Government has also been approached about the deteriorating gas supply position in Karachi, they added.

It is stated that Pakistan Steel is over-consuming because of going into production of steel and billets and to meet KESC's request for extra energy on account of the shortfall caused by idling of a 125-MW

unit which is under overhaul. But it also re-uses the gas produced by blast furnace and the coke oven.

However, the KESC is reported to have cut down its own consumption a bit together with two cement plants which have also curtailed consumption considerably.

Sources said the Karachi Gas had arrangements to monitor daily consumption by major gas consumers in the city and it was on this basis that it was issuing notices to the errant ones.

One factor for persistent low pressure was stated to be extra consumption on account of winter heating and increased use of hot water.

The new compressor units on Indus Right Bank are expected to be commissioned by middle of this year. The relief will be 20 mmcf/d against a shortfall of 60 mmcf/d.

The real improvement would not be possible before 1984 when development of Pir Koh field takes place and additional 100 mmcf/d is added to the supply by September 1984.

Sui fields' optimum production is estimated at 80 mmcf/d. With a loss of about seven per cent in the purification process, a net supply of 820 mmcf/d is available for sale — 290 mmcf/d to southern region including Karachi, 120 mmcf/d to Guddu Power Station, and the rest to Sui Northern. Of course, this was prior to the commissioning of the Quetta pipeline.

# LANDIKOTAL BAZAR STILL REPORTED CLOSED

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 4

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Jan 10—After a lapse of one month's temporary ceasefire in Khyber Agency following a bloody clash among two rival tribal groups last month which took several lives, Landikotal Bazar remained completely closed on the third day yesterday as no effort has so far succeeded in breaking this stalemate.

A large number of tribesmen of the two groups gathered in Speen Jamaat (name of mosque) in University town on Jamrud road yesterday morning to express their resentment over the tense situation arising out of perpetual failure of the authorities in bringing about a permanent solution of the problem.

Some elders of the Khyber Agency tribes speaking at the meeting demanded early arrest of culprits involved in blood-shedding

of the innocent tribesmen and early release of three of their prominent tribal elders — one Haji Gulab Khan Shinwari, an ex-MPA held two days back, and two others, namely, Haji Madar Khan Shinwari and Hayat Khan Shinwari arrested on Friday night. The tribal elders also urged the Government to fulfil its obligations in taming down the tension existing at present between the rival groups which could ultimately take fatal shape and make the situation still worse.

The meeting, besides demanding effective measures for checking smuggling of edibles across the border, also stressed the need for provision of basic amenities like electricity, gas and drinking water, while enforcing total ban on manufacture and trafficking of narcotics, specially heroin, in the tribal belt. —PPL

CSO: 4600/213



# BIG AMOUNTS ON INDUSTRIAL UNITS TO BE SPENT IN MULTAN

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 4

[Text]

MULTAN, Jan 10: The Pakistan Britain Chamber of Commerce has decided to set up new industrial units costing about Rs. 5 billion in three different tehsils of Multan district.

This was stated by Mr Tufail Shaheen Chaudhry, Chairman, Pakistan-Britain Chamber of Commerce, during his inspection visit to the under-construction college at Mian Chunnu, near Multan.

Mr Shaheen who was at Mian Chunnu from Britain on the invitation of Markazi Anjuman Islamia, Mian Chunnu, donated on the occasion a sum of Rs 1,60,000 for the under-construction building of the college.

He disclosed that the Pakistanis residing in Britain will jointly provide Rs 5 billion to Pakistan-Britain Chamber of Commerce, which has decided to set up new industries in the areas of Khanewal, Multan and Mian Chunnu in Multan district.

In this regard he said negotiations have already been opened with Pakistan Government.

Members of the Federal Majlis-i-Shoora, Mr Ghulam Haider Wain, in his address of welcome on the occasion, said that donations of Rs

five lakh have so far been received from Britain for the under-construction college of Mian Chunnu.

## Interest-free loans

Interest-free loans, amounting to Rs 3 crore are to be given to needy cultivators through different cooperative societies in Muzaffargarh district during the current financial year for Rabi sowing.

So far, these loans amounting to Rs 1.5 crore have already been given to cultivators in the district, while the remaining amount will be distributed within the stipulated period of six months ending June this year.

In order to provide better communications facilities to people, a sum of Rs 3.17 crore will be spent on the construction of link roads in Rahimyar Khan district, during the current financial year.

Moreover, the Cooperative Department in the district has given loans amounting to Rs 2 crore to enable cultivators to purchase wheat seed and fertilizers to make the current Rabi sowing a success.

# STUDENT ELECTIONS, JAMIAT'S LOSSES ANALYZED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 30 Dec 82 pp 13, 32

[Article by Mahmood Zaman]

[Text]

RESULTS of student union elections in 233 educational institutions in the Punjab this year show a further losing of ground by the Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba, and its graph of representation in colleges all over the Province has fallen as compared to the previous year. According to a newspaper report, students showed great enthusiasm and as many as 70 per cent turned up to exercise their democratic right. Police fully guarded the educational institutions and nothing untoward was reported.

Majority of student unions in the Province have been formed by Independent and Liberal groups. They are anti-Jamiat, and their victory at the polls will strengthen those students forces which are demanding a "clean" and "pure" academic atmosphere in colleges.

## Another force

Another major force which emerged in the students unions elections is the Anjuman Talaba-i-Islam (a students organisation having sympathies with Maulana Noorani's Jamiat Ulemai Pakistan). Although the ATI could not secure any seat in Lahore, Rawalpindi and Bahawalpur administrative divisions, yet in Multan, Gujranwala and Sargodha divisions, and mofussil areas in particular, this organisation made considerable gains in comparison with last year. The ATI secured a number of those town-level colleges which belonged to the IJT in previous years.

As for the People's Students Federation, it has been proudly placed in Rawalpindi Division in particular. This organisation also supported the students bodies which were fighting against the Jamiat. In Multan, the PSF shared offices with the N.S.F., M.S.F., A.T.I. and other Liberal groups.

The Muslim Students Federation has won convincingly in Sheikhpura, Sahiwal and Gujranwala colleges, besides securing a seat here and there.

But the National Students Federation (NSF) came out rather poorly. Multan has been a stronghold of the NSF, but this year it could manage to get seats in Alamdar Hussain College only. Though it also turned up partially in other Multan colleges and also rendered support to a number of anti-Jamiat alliance at other places, its overall performance was not outstanding.

The two students organisations which have disappointed the democratic forces are the Istiqlal Students Federation and Jamiat Tulaba-i-Islam, both of which are members of the Democratic Students Alliance. The former, in particular, was expected to take off in a satisfactory manner following its elections and organisation on all levels, but didn't. The JTI could not secure a single seat even in D.G. Khan and Multan, the areas under the religious and political influence of the late Maulana Mufi Mahmood.

The Provincial Shoorah of the Islami Jamiat Tulaba had decided to contest elections this year in 110 out of 148

boys' colleges. For the other colleges it was resolved that the Jamiat would support like-minded candidates. But this organisation contested elections in almost all the colleges, even in some girls colleges, all over the province.

The results show that Jamiat could manage to win 21 offices of President and 24 offices of Vice President in the Province. The Jamiat held 44 full unions last year.

### Lahore

Lahore in particular has been a sound Jamiat Unions centre, but this year many cracks appeared in their influence in this city. In 1981, among the colleges held by the Jamiat's full panels were F.C. College, Islamia College Civil Lines, Islamia College Railway Road, Dyal Singh College, Government College Ravi Road, Tibbia College, Model College (Model Town), Government Commercial Institute, Islamia College Lahore Cantt, Hashmi Memorial College and Government College of Sciences (Wahdat Road), besides two Punjab University Colleges — Hailey and Law. Before 1980 Government College Lahore also belonged to the Jamiat.

This year the Jamiat scored victories in F.C. College, Islamia College Civil Lines, Government College Ravi Road, Tibbia College and Hailey and Law Colleges. The two most prestigious Colleges, MAO and Dyal Singh, have slipped out of its hands. In MAO College, the Quaid-i-Azam Students Federation (QSF), with the support of the Students Alliance, swept the polls by a lead of over 400 votes. In Dyal Singh College, the Jamiat won the offices of President and Vice President, whereas General and Joint Secretaryships went to Students Alliance candidates. Similarly, the Jamiat lost the office of General Secretary in Islamia College Railway Road, but Islamia College Baghbanpura went to the Liberal group fully. In Government College, the Ravians Front maintained its winning spree of past two years.

Apart from the Students Alliance and QSF, the Black Eagles has emerged as a potential students force in Lahore. This organisation started last year and captured Government College

of Sciences, Wahdat Road. This year they not only retained this college but also occupied the full union in Government Commercial Institute, Wahdat Road, besides snatching the President's office in Model College, Model Town. The last named College went fully in favour of the Jamiat in 1981. The Jamiat's victories in the University Colleges — Hailey and Law — show that the Punjab University Students Alliance could not work properly. It also indicates the trend of the forthcoming Punjab University Students Union elections results.

The Islami Jamiat Talaba, however, scored a victory in Boson Road College, Multan, which had an NSF Union last year. The mixed results in Multan city colleges show that the NSF there is losing ground.

### Kasur

In Kasur, the Bullhe Shah Students Federation swept polls in two colleges. But how the Jamiat reacted to the results can be known from an incident the same evening (December 21). Five workers of Bullhe Shah Students Federation, namely, Mubarak Ali, Iftikhar, Mohammad Aslam, Sabir and Abdullah Salim were going back to their town, Raja Jang, in a bus. Some Jamiat workers were also travelling by the same bus. When it reached near Rao Khan Wala Canal, Jamiat workers allegedly forcibly stopped the bus and thrashed their opponents with hockey sticks and lathis after dragging them down. The Bullhe Shah Students Federation workers were seriously injured and removed to District Hospital, Kasur.

So far as Girls Colleges are concerned, students took polling to be a routine affair. In Lahore, Rawalpindi, Multan, Faisalabad and a couple of other big cities, however, girl students formed panels and also conducted conventional electioneering. In APWA College, Lahore, the Women's Front won all the seats. In Lahore College for Women and Cooper Road College, the P.S.F. (women wing) scored victory. In mofussil, colleges girls went about the election business with gusto.

Division-wise results of some prominent colleges (minus Lahore and Rawalpindi) is as under:

### Multan Division

The Jamiat won all four offices at Government College Bason Road. A mixed panel of the PSF and NSF won in Islamia College Civil Lines. The PSF swept in Wilayat Hussain College. The PSF, NSF and ATI (General Secretary) formed union in Millat College.

Faridia College Pakpattan has President from the ATI, V.P. from the IJT and General and Joint Secretaries from the QSF.

Government College Mian Channu has President from the ATI. Other offices go to the MSF. In the other Mian Channu College, the ATI forms the union.

In Government College Kabirwala, President and General Secretary come from the MSF, while V.P. and Joint Secretary belong to the NSF and PSF, respectively.

President and V. President in Imamia College Sahiwal come from the MSF, while General and Joint Secretaries are from the IJT.

In Islamia College Vehari, President and General and Joint Secretaries belong to ATI, whereas V. P. comes from the Young Students Federation.

The Union of M.C. College Burewala is formed by President, General and Joint Secretary of the ATI and V.P. from IJT (unopposed).

The ATI forms the union in Government College Shujaabad.

### GUJRANWALA

In M.C. College Hafizabad, the Inqilabi Council forms union.

Zamindara College Gujrat has the ATI's General Secretary while other offices belong to the PSF.

Government College Gujranwala has the Union of the ATI. In Islamia

College Gujranwala, Jamiat (President-unopposed and General and Joint Secretaries) and the A.T.I. (V.P.) form union.

In M.C. College Mandi Bahauddin, President and General and Joint Secretaries are from the IJT and V.P. is from the A.T.I.

Allama Iqbal College Sialkot has A.T.I. (President and Vice President) and Independents (General and Joint Secretaries) in the Union.

### DERA GHAZI KHAN

ATI forms the union in Government College D.G. Khan.

### BAHAWALPUR

The Ittehad-e-Tulaba forms the union in G.S.E. College.

The Eagles forms unions in Government College Bahawalpur and Government Inter College Hasilpur.

In Government College, Yazman, President and General Secretary are from the IJT, V.P. from the Eagles and an Independent "Joint Secretary".

### SARGODHA

President from the ATI and other three offices (all unopposed) from the IJT form the union in Government College Sargodha.

Except for General Secretary who got electoral unopposed, all the offices belong to Ambala Muslim College Sargodha.

In M.C. College Bhalwal, the union comprises President, Vice President and Joint Secretary from the IJT and General Secretary from the ATI.

## WITHDRAWING SUBSIDIES OPPOSED

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 23 Dec 82 p 7

[Text]

A NEWS agency quotes the Federal Planning Secretary, Dr. Muoenuddin Baqai, as having said that Government intends to withdraw all subsidies on essential goods or services that are still extant in order "to inculcate a sense of self-reliance among the people."

He is reported to have announced gleefully that these subsidies, ranging between Rs. 300 and 400 crore (one hopes this vague estimate of the amount involved cannot be attributed to the planning official), on such items as fertilisers, wheat, gas, export of textiles, railway fares and drinking water in cities, would disappear and the market left completely free to determine the price levels. The list is not complete and embraces many other items which affect the basic cost-of-living index; and their resultant price rise will impinge most heavily on those sections of our people who can least afford to bear any additional burdens. Incidentally, the policy statement overrides the recent promise given by the Minister for Power that "for the present" there would be no increase in gas or electricity prices; but, perhaps, a semantic explanation will be found for the contradiction.

## IMF Loans

Anyhow, Dr. Baqai, understandably, had nothing to say about the unavoidable impact that this policy would have on living standards. Nor did he consider it necessary to repeat the explanation given often by

officials that this cold-blooded policy was being pursued at the behest of the IMF as a pre-condition for sanctioning its latest loans, or the plea that it was worthwhile to suffer present penury in the hope of future affluence which, it is frequently forecast, would follow the productive employment of IMF and other foreign loans to allow Pakistan's economy to be resuscitated and ultimately reach the oft-promised take-off stage.

Be that as it may, the Secretary's firm assertion that the step was being taken with the purpose of bringing self-reliance to the people will baffle most ordinary mortals and mortify those whose financial position will further be eroded by the certain rise in prices. It is, perhaps, possible to argue that in ideal circumstances, with the country's economy perfectly balanced and developing steadily, somehow made safe from the battering winds of global stagflation, and with the Government eager and able to enforce a reasonable prices and incomes policy, subsidies could gradually be dispensed with. It should be remembered, however, that in both East and West even affluent States maintain subsidies to help cushion the economy against bumps and save their people from preventable hardships. In our circumstances, a further price spiral is bound to follow the abolition of all subsidies. How will it make the individual more self-reliant when he finds that he cannot balance the

family budget without giving up some of his most essential needs? And even if the reference is to some notional national self-reliance, this abstract achievement will not save the people from adverse effects or their being driven to devise extra-ordinary means to maintain their present level of subsistence.

### **The problem**

If the learned Doctor, caught in the web of monetarist theories, cannot be persuaded to think directly in terms of the meagre family budgets that are the responsibility of ordinary men, he might try to understand their predicament by making a survey of the national budget and the difficulties faced by Government in meeting its projected expenditures on account of rising costs and falling income under various heads. He must know that for some time, with the economy presurised by the global recession, Government has had budgetary problems. There was a time, for example, when our rice crop had to be pledged in the futures' market in order to tide

over our balance of payment difficulties. Since then, a change in the geopolitical situation has brought relief through huge foreign loans. Then, facing the same problem in domestic terms, Government can and does utilise the facility of printing more bank notes to overcome a financial crisis. None of these or like facilities are available to the citizen — neither readily available loans nor deficit financing. What then does he do to deal with a crisis which he finds is steadily deepening and which is likely to worsen unless Government policies are revised? Obviously, these policies, devised in far-off Islamabad, must begin to pay greater attention to their effect on the people, particularly the vast majority who cannot absorb any further shocks without a great deal of sacrifice and pain.

It should be accepted by our planners that the economy must be reorganized in a manner that it can cater to national requirements for development and progress — without inflicting too heavy a burden on the people. Failure to do so can only lead to their alienation and to confusion and chaos.

CSO: 4600/203



# ECONOMIC FEASIBILITY OF BIO-GAS DISCUSSED

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Jan 83 p 8

[Article by H.A. Hamied]

[Text]

The technical and economic feasibility of small scale biogas generation from cow-dung has been established by the PCSIR's Fuel and Leather Research Centre and it should now be possible to generate methane at a cost of Rs. 5 per million BTU which compares very favourably with existing fuel prices.

It is estimated that the initial capital outlay for a small family sized plant is about Rs. 2,000 (for a family of 4 or 5 persons).

The technical aspects of anaerobic fermentation are viable and it is concluded that even though the technology could be improved, the process can be operated on a small scale and quite efficiently.

A major requirement for the rural areas of the country is the supply of cheap, reliable, and convenient fuel for both heating and lighting purposes. Although there are good indigenous supplies of natural gas and increasing large scale hydro-electric generation, these are generally beyond the means of large proportion of the population especially those living in outlying areas.

For many years to come, the PCSIR study shows, other indigenous fuel supplies for use in household would be kerosene, wood, coal and dried animal dung. The supplies of both wood and coal are limited and recently the price of wood has risen considerably.

The Fuel and Leather Research Centre (FULREC) of PCSIR has examined the feasibility of generating gas from animal wastes using the process of anaerobic digestion or fermentation.

The gas thus produced contains a high proportion of methane (50 per cent and higher) and has a calorific value of about 600 BTU. As a further by-product, the slurry waste from the fermenter contains a fair proportion of nitrogen which as a result of the chemical changes in the digestion process, is more readily taken up by the solid than the original material. The process is thus a very attractive one. The waste materials which may at the present time be used as fuel, can be converted into both fuel and fertiliser.

According to the FULREC, various terms are used to describe the gas formed by anaerobic digestion such as Marsh gas, Sludge gas, Cow dung gas or more recently, Bio-gas.

The technological basis of methane generation by anaerobic digestion is relatively straightforward. It is certainly very common even if all the factors affecting the design of units are not understood.

Most bio-chemical fermentations are extremely sensitive to the operating conditions, and may be halted completely or diverted into a different path by changing chemical conditions; for example, temperature, mixing, the presence of other bacteria and so on.



The conversion of organic solid wastes to methane has been practised on both large and small scale for many years. Three possible processes are, anaerobic digestion, hydro-gasification and pyrolysis.

Hydrogasification is the reaction of hydrogen with carbon-bearing materials to produce methane rich gases. Further gas cleaning and processing is needed to complete the process. The method is unsuitable for rural areas.

Alternatively, the solid wastes may be pyrolysed to produce methane rich gases.

### Technical appeal

Anaerobic digestion, on the other hand, does have immediate technical appeal: Operating conditions are very mild (like most biochemical reactions), with temperatures around 95 degrees F, choice of materials of construction is wider, there is a single processing step, and the control and operation of the process is straightforward.

The size of the gas plant is largely

determined by the number of cattle in a village. The following equivalents give a fair idea in sizing up the plant: one head of cattle gives about 22 lbs of dung per day, one pound of fresh dung can give about 0.8 feet of gas, 20 feet of gas is required for cooking and lighting per person per day.

The plant is loaded with equal amounts of dung and water in addition to a small amount of already fermented slurry from an on-going gas plant. The gas cap starts to rise in a couple of days if conditions are right for the growth of the organism necessary for anaerobic decomposition. The first lot of gas produced is not rich in methane and hence is allowed to escape but after a week's time the gas is usable. A check is made each day to ensure that the gas cap is free to move vertically with increasing gas pressure.

The gas plant is obviously more useful to the farmer who owns his own cattle. The gas produced from the dung of 4 or 5 animals is sufficient to meet the lighting and cooking requirements of a family of 4 or 5 persons.

## PROVIDING NATURAL GAS TO BALUCHISTAN PRAISED

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 p 9

[Text]

IT IS somewhat anomalous, indeed unfair, that the province in which Pakistan's natural gas fields are located has itself been denied the use of this gas for so long. For all these years Sui has been at the core of Pakistan's energy supply and it is only because of the natural gas supplied from there that the country managed to survive the steep rise in oil prices in the last decade without being brought to its knees completely. It was, therefore, unfair that Baluchistan, where Sui is located, should be excluded from the benefits that the rest of the country has been deriving from this energy source. With the inauguration by President Zia-ul-Haq of the Quetta Pipeline today, however, a major wrong will be removed and this province will also begin to benefit from the supply of natural gas. The laying of the 344-kilometer-long pipeline is a major engineering feat in itself, if for no other reason than the fact that it was designed and executed by Pakistani talent. The pipeline, from near Shikarpur to Quetta, traversed terrain which is not only extremely rough but also displays extremes of topography — from mountains to arid desert plains. It is a credit to Pakistani engineers and planners that, despite not having undertaken a pipeline con-

struction project over such terrain before, they still took up the challenge and managed to meet it successfully. Not only that, but in a country where long delays in the construction of projects, particularly in the public sector, are common, the completion of the transmission line six months ahead of schedule is also something to be commended.

With its commissioning, today, natural gas will be supplied to Quetta and to the many other towns through which the line passes, such as Jacobabad, Jhatpat and Sibi. The advent of an energy source like natural gas will quite obviously have a major impact on the province's development. The provision of domestic connections alone will make a very considerable change in life patterns, in the employment pattern as the fuel supply system changes. There is likely to be greater impact, however, through the commercial and industrial uses to which gas will be put. There is provision for supplying gas to a sizeable number of factories. Lack of proper infrastructure is always a disincentive to industry, however attractive other benefits may be, and the fact that natural gas was not available in these parts must surely have acted as a major obstacle to industrial develop-

ment. The tax incentives which this province offers is a powerful attraction and with gas supply assured now, and the improvement it is likely to bring in electricity generation, there should be great interest in setting up industrial units in Baluchistan. The Baluchistan Government, which is planning industrial estates at several places in the province, may need to expedite matters.

While all this is very heartening for this province, the overall picture is not entirely rosy. A worrying aspect is the ability of the Sui fields to keep up producing adequately, and of the distributing companies to transmit gas in adequate quantities to the consumers. A major scare in this connection was created some time back when distribution companies announced their inability to supply gas in adequate quantities. One result in

Karachi was the switch-over by KESC electricity generation units to other fuels. This led to the imposition of a heavy fuel surcharge fee, as a result of which industry has been handicapped. This is not all, however. There is also the growing shortage of a gas supply, as a result of which industrial, commercial and domestic consumers are affected with varying frequency throughout the country. While the supply of gas to Baluchistan is an occasion for rejoicing, it should also cause some serious thinking to be done on the entire aspect of natural gas supply. At the least, other fields — Pirkoh, for instance — have to be commissioned quickly, so that the advantage which Pakistan enjoys is maintained. At the same time, the advisability of using natural gas only for fuel purposes should be re-examined.

CSO: 4600/207

## NEEDS OF SMALL FARMERS IN THE CONTEXT OF 6TH PLAN DISCUSSED

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 p 9

[Article by Sultan Ahmed]

[Text]

The profusion of words that flow in respect of the problems and prospects of agriculture in Pakistan at conferences and committee meetings, seminars and workshops tend to obscure some very basic facts.

If it is cheering to be told that Pakistan is the twelfth largest country in the world in arable area, fifth largest in irrigated area and the largest country in contiguous irrigated area, it is discouraging to know that out of nearly 200 million acres of land only 77 million acres are cultivable, and even out of that 27 million acres remain uncultivable every year.

Out of the cultivable area one half is ruined by salinity, and about 40 per cent by water-logging. Added to this is soil erosion. And, the mighty irrigation system is subjected to such gross waste of water for a variety of reasons that only 32 per cent of the irrigation water reaches the farm channels. But if steps are taken in the conventional manner to use all the water the Indus Basin may turn into a salt lake much earlier than feared.

While 70 per cent of the people depend on agriculture and 55 per cent of the labour is engaged in this, it contributes to only 30 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product. The reason for that is that the farmers are generally illiterate, excessively poor, too conservative, and often sick. Want of education stands in the way of the farmers

getting the best out of their agricultural inputs, bank credit, the co-operative societies, the new technology and modern storage and marketing techniques.

Too often the farmers waste a good bit of their modest resources on rites, rituals and ceremonies by following the landlords who set the living pattern in the rural areas. And a third of the nearly four million farmers have no direct stake in the land as they are mere tenants and hence cannot go all-out for maximum production.

### Monsoon economy

President Zia-ul-Haq said during his tour of the US that Pakistan's economy was a monsoon economy. When the monsoon was right, everything else went right. Luckily for the country the monsoon has been consistently good during the last five years. As a result, agricultural output increased by 25 per cent during the period, while the index of the fibre crops — base year 1959-60 — jumped from 149 points in 1976-77 to 260 points last year.

The emphasis on increasing agricultural production in Pakistan has increased for a variety of compelling reasons. To begin with more food is needed because of the annual increase in population by nearly 3 per cent, and higher consumption per capita following the improvement in the earnings of the people. Imported food, whether that be a major foodgrain or minor item, has become too costly in a country with a critical balance of

payments position. The magnitude of the import cost is underscored by the fact that Pakistan had to spend Rs 400 crore on import of edible oil last year. Import of milk powder costs around Rs 40 crore. Earlier, nearly Rs 60 crore had to be spent on import of pulses following the sustained shortage and skyrocketing prices at home.

High price of food has given a direct and immediate incentive to Pakistan to explore the possibilities of exporting more food, particularly to the Gulf States. And such exports are to cover not only rice, which earned Rs 560 crore in 1980-81, but also meat, poultry, vegetables and fruits, and, if possible, wheat and sugar.

Dr Mahbubul Haq attaches tremendous importance to such exports under the sixth Five-Year Plan he is formulating, and wishes to go all-out for it. Hence major agricultural issues are being debated a great deal in the country now. And last week's seminar on the Strategy for accelerating agricultural development, organised by the Economists Discussion Group of Experts in Karachi, was part of that debate.

The debate is giving rise to many major questions. To some of them there are no clear-cut answers. In some cases it is easier to come up with answers than implement them. The expert suggestion may be an ideal one; but the farming community is not prepared for that as the farmer changes slowly, and he is suspicious of smart Alec solution which go against his common sense and experience.

## Major questions

A major conflict today is between the demand of the State and the interest of the small or tenant farmers. The State today wants more agricultural production, efficient and economic methods of production, rapid increases in output, and quality products that are readily exportable. The State has a macro approach to the production issues.

Supporting the State's approach are the big growers, both the traditional landlords or the new breed of, what is described as, progressive farmer. Both want fragmentation of land to end and availability of large tracts of land for mechanical cultivation. They want no more land reforms and in fact, press for a

categorical declaration by the State that there will be no more land reforms.

Mr Abdul Jabbar Khan, President of Habib Bank, for example came up with the demand that the number of nearly four million farms in the country should be reduced to half that number for the sake of efficiency in production and higher output.

Supporting this landed interest group are the business and industrial community. They want agriculture to be done on a corporate basis as in the US. For that, they want large tracts of land. The limitations of land-holding prescribed by the 1972 land reforms have been removed by the government for the sake of promoting cattle farms. A number of industrialists, businessmen and ex-officials have been allotted 5,000 acres of land near Karachi to develop cattle farms. The move is afoot to allot similarly large areas of government land to the private sector agricultural corporations that may come up soon. A few multinationals, too, may enjoy such benefits.

The corporate leaders are not content with the possibility of getting such new lands. They are more interested in getting hold of the fertile lands under cultivation now. They don't want to buy off such lands but seek to make the farmers join in with their farms as share capital. That means the corporate sector can get hold of large areas of land with little investment.

Fearing such moves and opposing it are the small farmers. Sixty-eight per cent of the farmers now own less than 12.5 acres of land, and 89 per cent less than 26 acres of land. And the agricultural census of 1972 shows that only 42 per cent of the farmers are owner-cultivators, while 34 per cent are mere tenants, 24 per cent owner-cum-tenants.

The tenants want to become owners of the land they have been cultivating instead of its being handed over by the zamindars to the corporate barons. But they do not have the power to assert their will or the means to buy off the land they have been cultivating.

It has been said hitherto the production can go up only if the small farms are eliminated and large farms established. But even the World Bank says that small farms can increase output rapidly with the right inputs and using the right technology. Evidently, the size of the farm does not matter as much as the quality of the farmer, his economic means and his readiness to employ modern techniques, and

the ability to obtain loans and market his products most profitably.

Land, it was said at the seminar, gives prestige to the farmers, however small the land holding may be. While that may be true, what the farmer wants is security. He is not ready to hand over his land to someone he does not know, an agency with which he is not familiar, and to a seth from the cities of whom he is deeply suspicious.

Secondly, when half the companies listed on the Karachi Stock Exchange do not give any dividend, and many have not done that for five years, and a large number of them have not even cared to hold annual general meetings of shareholders, will they be fair to the small farmers in the far off rural areas when they become corporate farmers?

The great lure of the farmland for the business community and the retired and serving officials all round is the exemption of agricultural income from income tax. What happens if income tax laws are made applicable to farm income as well, as will be done at some stage? Will they be interested in turning corporate farmers at that stage as well?

## Sense of security

The smaller farmer as well as the country at large is concerned not only with the economic power of the big zamindars but also their political clout. National and provincial assemblies, elected or nominated, are packed with them. This community now will be strengthened with the entry of senior retired or serving civilian and military officials in their ranks in large numbers. Together they are becoming increasingly formidable economically as well as politically.

The small farmer cannot withstand their combined strength, particularly when he is illiterate and his financial means are meagre. While he is a member of a co-operative society he has not been able to benefit by that really. Social justice demands that the State comes to his help in a big way. And that should be one of the major aims of the sixth Plan, and that should not be only through the spread of literacy or provision of better health facilities on the farmland alone, although very important they are. So while the national goals in agriculture and export-targets receive full attention under the sixth Plan, the small farmer with his large problems and varied fears should not be forgotten.

# SURPLUS SUGAR TO BE REPORTED

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 pp 1, 14

[Article by Mohammad Aslam]

[Text]

The Government has decided to export substantial quantity of last year's surplus sugar stocks to some Asian and African countries, it is learnt.

The decision was taken at a high-level meeting held in Islamabad yesterday (Wednesday). Present at the meeting were representatives of the Ministries of Food and Agriculture, Finance and Industries etc besides the Pakistan Sugar Mills Association.

It is learnt that the meeting set the export target at 300,000 tonnes. The formula for such export was also discussed and finalised, these sources said.

While about 100,000 tonnes is proposed to be exported to Iran under a barter deal, another 200,000 tonnes will be sold to African countries notably Sudan and Nigeria which are particularly interested in Pakistani sugar.

The present international sugar price is about 200 US dollars. The low price level is because of worldwide depression in sugar trade following big surplus in all major sugar producing countries.

This is one reason Pakistan had been reluctant to export its sugar. Another reason was the relatively high cost of production in this country.

Sugar industry sources said the formula devised for export of sugar

is to share the loss on 50-50 basis between the Government and the sugar mills (through the association).

To compensate the losses to be incurred by the sugar mills, the Government would increase their Free Sale Quota. This Free Sale Quota would be worked out in due course of time, sources said.

It may be recalled that at the beginning of the current crushing season, Pakistan's surplus sugar stocks had swelled to about 335,000 tonnes worth about Rs 2.345 billion.

At one stage it was proposed to build up a "reserve" of 200,000 tonnes but obviously there were too many hurdles on account of the limited storage and godown facilities.

The industry was concerned because while the existing godown facilities had been fully consumed by the last year's surplus, the country was poised for yet another big crop and at least the same quantity of sugar as in 1981-82 i.e. 585,000 tonnes.

Yet another aspect was the huge amount (Rs 2.345 billion) which would have been blocked in case the last year's entire surplus was used to build up the "reserve".



# PAKISTANI EYE SPECIALISTS TEAM VISITING NEPAL

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 p 8

[Text]

King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal will inaugurate a month-long eye relief camp at Bharatpur, about 300 kilometres from Khatmandu on Jan 9.

This was disclosed by Dr M. H. Rizvi, a leading Pakistani eye surgeon who will lead a team of eye specialists which will carry out over two thousand eye operations at the Bharatpur camp.

Addressing a radio Press conference here on Tuesday Dr Rizvi said that an advance team of technicians and social workers has already left for Bharatpur. The eight-member team of Pakistani doctors will leave here for Nepal on Friday.

Answering a question, he said some donation of eyes are being collected from Sri Lanka for corneal transplants in Nepal.

He said the team of Pakistani eye specialists is being sent to Nepal on the instructions of President Zia-ul-Haq.

He said a similar team had gone to Sri Lanka two years ago.

To another question Dr Rizvi said that requests for Pakistani eye experts have been received from several countries including Zimbabwe.

Referring to the cooperation between Pakistan and Sri Lanka in this field, Dr Rizvi said Pakistan was getting eyes from Colombo and a fifty-bed hospital is being set up in Colombo with the cooperation of Pakistan.

He said about thirty six thousand Pakistanis have signed will cards including President Zia-ul-Haq.

Surgeon Rizvi suggested that a scientific survey about the eye diseases should be carried out as soon as possible.

To yet another question Dr Rizvi said the number of eye surgeons should be increased both in rural and urban areas of the country.

—PPI

CSO: 4600/207

# JUTE CULTIVATION IN SIND TO BE TRIED AGAIN

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 p 8

[Article by Habibullah Quadri]

[Text]

The Government of Sind is understood to have decided to start pilot projects in Upper and Lower Sind for popularising jute cultivation in the province. According to reports, a three-member committee has been appointed to prepare a programme for launching the projects probably from the next Kharif season.

When the projects get going, it will be the sixth attempt at Government level to introduce jute cultivation in Sind and it cannot be said whether, unlike the previous attempts, this one will produce the desired results.

The experiments for jute cultivation in Sind had been first started, without success, in the fifties and repeated in 1966 when the then Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) had provided necessary facilities to the farmers by way of incentive to grow jute in their lands. The ADC officers and staff had suspended their regular activities and devoted themselves solely to the tasks of imparting technical advice to the jute growers in their fields and sending weekly reports to the higher authorities on the progress of the campaign. The zamindars who had been granted Government land on Malkana were served with notices, warning them that their grants would be cancelled if they did not grow jute at least on one per cent of their grant lands.

A seasonal target of 12,600 acres had been set for jute cultivation in the GM Barrage area but the land in which the jute seeds had been sown did not exceed 4980 acres

while the crop had grown to maturity only in an area of 1317 acres. And the fibre yield had been much below the average mark. The farmers who had taken part in the experiment complained that they were also having difficulty in selling their fibre and seed produced at a fair price but no steps were taken to solve their problems and the campaign was abandoned.

The year 1974 saw the formation of the Jute Corporation which was supposed to bring large areas of land under jute cultivation. The campaign was launched with a liberal allocation of funds by the Federal Government but that campaign also fizzled out as the Government realised, rather belatedly, that the money had gone into some invisible hands and the enthusiasm to popularise jute cultivation was converted into anxiety to trace the beneficiaries and get back the money.

The next campaign for jute cultivation was launched in Kotri Barrage area in 1977 and Mr Akhtar Ahmed Mughal, the then Deputy Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad Region, was appointed Director of the campaign. Areas were selected in Ghorabari, Mirpur Sakro and Jati Talukas for that purpose and the zamindars of those areas were offered incentives in the form of bank loans and seed supplies at half their market price. The seeds were required to be supplied by the owners of the jute mills to the growers in areas assigned to them but it was noted that the millers were avoiding to fulfil that commitment. There were comp-

laints that they were not very enthusiastic about the success of the campaign as production of jute fibre in Pakistan would deprive them of the advantage of getting foreign exchange for the purchase of their fibre requirements from foreign countries.

The Jute growing experiments over the years in the Kotri Barrage area had been highly successful and it was no more the question of teaching the farmers how to grow jute but that of how to reduce the cost of extraction of fibre from the cuttings of jute plants. The fibre extraction involves the process of soaking the plant cuttings in a pool of water for several days, technically called retting, and then strapping off the softened bark from the cuttings. It is said to be a very costly process and an almost impassable hurdle in the way of jute cultivation campaigns. The farmers in Sind are well conversant with the technique of growing the jute plants and the fibre, extracted from such plants, of course, at an exorbitant cost, even in the early days of the campaigns had been rated to be of high quality.

Impressed by this fact, Dr A. Rahim Choudhry, the then Director General and Agricultural Adviser to ADC, West Pakistan, had stated that "two years' experiments in jute cultivation in the GM Barrage area had proved that jute fibre is of high quality and seeds are pulpy, bright and sound. In germination tests, West Pakistan jute had scored 98 per cent success against the average of 65 per cent in East Pakistan".

The 1977 campaign had proved to be a total failure as, on account of prohibitive cost of fibre extraction, very few zamindars could be persuaded to undertake jute culti-

vation. The total area in Sind in which jute seeds were sown did not exceed 95 acres and the jute crops in about 82 per cent of that area were totally destroyed by rain floods. The total yield of jute fibre, sold by the farmers to the jute mills, had only been 3 maunds and 3 lbs!

These repeated jute cultivation campaigns had categorically established that the cause of their failure had been the high cost of extraction of fibre from the cuttings of jute plants and not any lack of technical know-how on the part of the farmers to grow jute. But yet every campaign has been launched with a fanfare of publicity as being the first effort, aimed at teaching the farmers how to grow jute, without any reference to the previous campaigns or to the high cost of fibre extraction which constituted the real cause of failure of those campaigns.

Again, in 1978, another campaign was launched for "motivating the farmers" to raise jute crops in their lands. A target of 2,000 acres was fixed for Kotri Barrage area but that campaign failed to take off as the farmers laid down the condition that they would grow the jute plants and supply their cuttings to the jute millers who should make their own arrangements for the processes of retting and extraction of fibre. The millers refused to do so and the campaign was called off.

That was the fifth attempt at Government level to popularise jute cultivation in Sind. The present campaign, the sixth in the series, is likely to meet the same fate if the problem of retting and extraction of fibre is not solved to the liking of the jute growers.

# DEVELOPMENT LOAN FOR SIND LIVESTOCK PROJECT

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 p 2

[Text]

Pakistan's efforts to promote livestock development in the Province of Sind will be assisted with a \$25.7 million concessional loan from the Asian Development Bank, says a ADB Press release.

Approval of the loan is subject to the condition that the loan shall be signed when sufficient financial resources are available from the Asian Development Fund.

The loan follows a project preparatory technical assistance approved by the Bank in August 1980.

The objectives of the \$38.4 million Sind Livestock Development Project are: (i) to increase livestock production in the Province of Sind, especially production of milk and meat to satisfy the need for animal protein in the national diet; and (ii) to improve the incomes of small-scale milk producers and livestock raisers in the project area.

Implementation of the project, which consists of Part A and Part B, will take about five years (1983-1987).

Part A — comprising 71 per cent of the loan — for which the Agricultural Development Bank of Pakistan (ADBP) will be the Executing Agency, will be implemented by the private sector. Under Part A, three dairy processing plants will be established for improved collection, chilling, processing and transporing of milk to consuming centers. Feedmills and feeding units will also be established.

Part B — comprising 29 per cent of the loan — will be implemented by the Directorate of Animal Husbandry (DAH) of the Government of Sind. It involves, among other things, breed improvement, animal health and extension services.

About 243,000 farm families will directly benefit from the project. These families are expected to earn annual incremental amounts of about \$90 — \$250 per animal unit from the sale of milk and meat in a market-oriented production system. The sale of milk and meat will result in a flow of funds from urban to rural areas and will promote equitable income distribution.

An important effect of the project will be the development within the livestock sub-sector of sound technological and managerial skills for further expansion of the industry.

Under the project, the recording of animal performance data in conjunction with the dairy development and artificial insemination programme will provide information on the dairy stock not presently available in Pakistan. This data will permit the selection of superior animals based on scientific criteria and will lead to a faster development and genetic improvement in local breeds of cattle and buffalo.

The combined effects of the components of the project at full development are expected to increase the production of processed milk, amounting to 35 million lit/year and of meat (beef, mutton, chicken), amounting to about 5,000 mt/year. The projected increases will help to maintain availability of milk and meat, stabilize prices and contain imports.

The Province of Sind includes 28 percent of the country's agricultural land, 23 percent of the national population and 30 percent of its rural population. Next to Punjab and Baluchistan, where livestock development is already receiving foreign assistance, Sind has considerable potential and need for similar development.

To be drawn from the Asian Development Fund, the Bank loan is for 40 years including 10 years of grace, with a service charge of 1 percent per annum.

CSO: 4600/207

INTEGRATED LIVESTOCK PROJECT TO BE SET UP IN SIND

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 p 11

[Text]

An integrated livestock project is being set up in the private sector as a joint venture with a US firm at Jhimpir (Sind) at a cost of seven million dollars.

Mrs Salma Ahmad, a city industrialist, told newsmen yesterday there would be provision for rearing 12,000 sheep, a cold storage, abattoir and air-conditioned vans for transportation of meat. The project will be operational in a year.

Sunflower oil

Another US firm is cooperating with a Pakistani party in the growth of sunflower for oil extraction and the project will be launched within four months.

She said sunflower would be grown on 5,000 acres in Mirpurkhas and the extraction plant would be set up in Kotri. The project would involve an expenditure of six million dollars including two million dollars worth of machinery to be imported from the US.

A US agronomist was expected here any day to suggest on the improvement of the quality of the seed.

At the plant oil would also be extracted from cottonseed.

Begum Salma said she had undertaken a mini-cement plant in Muzaffarabad, (Azad Kashmir) with a 300 ton daily production capacity — cost \$20 million.



# LAWYERS DEMAND RESTORATION OF 1973 CONSTITUTION

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 p 14

[Text]

LAHORE, Jan 5: Lawyers from various parts of the country today called for the restoration of the 1973 Constitution and revival of supremacy and independence of Judiciary.

Speaking at a reception hosted in honour of the lawyers released recently, the former Law Minister, Mian Mahmud Ali Kasuri, said the lawyers in Pakistan were crusading for the rights of the entire nation and not for those of the lawyers community alone. He noted with pleasure that the members of the legal community had held a number of conventions and conferences at various centres and had emerged as a united force to struggle for the basic rights.

Mian Sahib cautioned that a country whose citizens were deprived of their civil liberties, ultimately lost their national liberty.

He said that no country could defend itself without the active participation of its people, however, well armed it might be.

He regretted that the Government had banned the lawyers' convention scheduled for tomorrow at

Mirpur, Azad Kashmir, adding that it would only bring a bad name for the administration. He said that lawyers all over the world were known for their law abiding nature and were the last people to behave as "rebels or revolutionaries".

The President of Karachi Bar Association, Mr Hafeez Lakho who arrived here this morning, said the lawyers had started their struggle for the realisation of their legitimate rights strictly at their own initiative and not at the behest of any political party. He however, hoped that the political parties and people would realise the importance and the urgency of the situation and extend their support to the struggle.

Mr Iftakhar Gilani of the Peshawar Bar and Mian Sher Alam and Mr Rashid Qureshi of the Lahore Bar also addressed the gathering. The President of the Lahore High Court Bar Association, Mr Abid Hasan Minto welcomed the guests and noted with satisfaction that the lawyers subscribing to various shades of opinion and political groupings had made sacrifices for the common cause.

CHASHMA CANAL PROJECT TO BE DELAYED

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Dec 82 p 1

[Text]

D.I. KHAN, Dec 22: The gigantic Chashma Right Bank Canal project, to be implemented at an estimated cost of Rs 350 crore on River Indus and designed to irrigate lakhs of acres of land lying barren in D.I. Khan Division, is feared to receive another setback in its scheduled completion.

According to knowledgeable sources, the three-phased 60 kilometer track of the spade work scheduled for completion by the end of next year, is also very much in doldrums, although the Federal Government is putting its best for the completion of this project of national importance within the stipulated time. But the monetary hurdles posed by hesitation of Asian Development Bank and the International Monetary Fund in extending necessary aid despite all the necessary guarantees and assurances of the Government of Pakistan, play the havoc.

The sources disclose that lack of sufficient amount of foreign exchange may cause delay in the import of heavy machinery, inevitable for use at the project, thus creating lot of panic for the WAPDA authorities.

It is worth mentioning here that the preliminary estimates of the Chashma Right Bank Canal were Rs 1.75 crore, which rose upto the extent of Rs 350 crore due to perpetual delay in commissioning the construction work year after year.—PPI

CSO: 4600/205

# NWFP CONSIDERING INSTITUTE TO PROMOTE ISLAM

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Jan 83 p 4

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Dec 31: The NWFP Governor, Lt. Gen. Fazle Haq has said that the Provincial Government was considering a proposal to establish an effective institution for the propagation and promotion of Islam under an integrated and comprehensive programme.

Speaking at the one-day provincial Seerat Conference here on Wednesday, on the birthday of Holy Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him), the Governor said that the present Government had taken concrete steps for the Islamisation of the society, and the establishment of such an institution was necessitated to defend the ideological frontiers of the country.

He said that the present Government was conscious of the importance of propagation of Islam in and outside the country. He stressed the need for implementation of Islam in all walks of life, as it was a "Deen" which embodied the principles of politics, economics, trade, and was against evil forces and upheld peace.

Governor, Fazle Haq said that

the present Government was committed to its pledge regarding implementation of Islamic order in the country gradually, which was in accordance with the aspirations of the nation.

## No false promises

He said the Government was sincerely marching towards implementation of complete Islamisation of society and was not making false promises with the nation like the previous regimes, who exploited Islam for their ulterior motives. He added that success of actions depended on the sincerity of intentions.

He, however, cautioned the people that faith (Deen) could not be introduced in totality unless it was fully comprehended and defended against the onslaught of the false ideologies. He called upon the people to pledge on this sacred occasion to dedicate their life and energy for the glory of Islam.

The Governor said that the present Government was striving hard

to implement Nizam-i-Mustafa in the country, despite the hardships and opposition of certain quarters and would continue its efforts till the completion of the task. He said that it was the sincerity of intention of the Government that progress had been made in the foreign, internal, economic and trade, and even sports policies of the country had earned name in the comity of nations.

Gen. Fazle Haq said that the country was established in the name of Islam and the Muslims of the Sub-continent had made tremendous sacrifices for this purpose. Ten lakh Muslim men and women laid their lives and ten million migrated for the cause of independent Muslim State. The movement for independence started right in 1857, which was a source for the Pakistan Movement. He, however, expressed concern that after the death of Quaid-i-Azam, the nation was deflected from the real goal of independence, which resulted in the separation of East Pakistan.—APP.

ACCOUNTS OF PHARMACEUTICAL FIRMS TO BE CHECKED

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Jan 83 p 6

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Dec 31: Complete record of the accounts of the 227 pharmaceutical companies in the country will be checked soon by the Federal Ministry of Health, it is reliably learnt.

Services of a cost accountant are being acquired by the Ministry concerned to rationalise, besides other things, demands for raising drug prices by the companies.

The Ministry is also considering to cancel the registration of over 80 pharmaceutical firms for not paying their dues for national drug centres, as a result of which the Government has suffered a loss amounting to millions of rupees.

All pharmaceutical firms in the country are obliged to pay one per cent of their annual turnover to be utilised for establishing drug centres. The dues were never paid by majority of the firms since 1976, which prompted the Ministry to take legal action against defaulters.

Only 60 out of 227 pharmaceutical firms paid to the Ministry a sum of Rs 72 lakh, while the rest failed to do so.

The Ministry believes that the amount paid was much less than what was due and to ascertain that, their record of accounts will be checked. The Ministry will also ask the firms to pay interest on this amount since 1976.

# PLEA TO CAPTURE FOREIGN FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKET

Karachi DAWN in English 1 Jan 83 p 8

[Text]

The Vice-Chairman Export Promotion Bureau, Mr. Mohammad Yousuf, has pleaded for creation of agencies in the private sector to capture foreign markets in the export of vegetables and fruits.

In his paper on "Export of Vegetables and Fruits" at the national seminar on "Accelerating Agricultural Development — Sixth Plan," he said that already a substantial quantity of these commodities is being exported, but the quantum of export in comparison to the potential available in the country, is insignificant. He said that neither is the production export-oriented nor is there any coordination between demand in the foreign market and production activity. The modus operandi is to procure the commodities available in the market and transport them to the demand centres. This operation does not ensure varieties, quality and sustained supplies.

Mr Yousuf said, if it is desired to capture foreign markets, we should first pay attention to the production of high-quality commodities which means producing high-quality varieties in optimal condi-

tions at a reasonable cost so as to compete with the goods being supplied to the foreign markets by other countries, thus ensuring a fair return of profit to the producer also. This objectives cannot be achieved under the prevalent conditions. An agency/agencies which will be involved in the whole process have to be created, but not in the public sector.

Exportable agricultural commodities vary in their nature and production process and it will not be correct to have a common policy for all produce. For example, fruits and vegetables are not to be bracketed. Production of vegetables is a labour-intensive operation which can profitably be produced by small farmers, mostly subsistence farmers. Moreover, these are very short-term crops requiring specialised skills. Raising of orchards for fruit production requires capital and a longer period of investment. Thus the growers are not subsistence farmers but men of means. The production strategy and marketing channels for these commodities are quite different, he added.—APP.

# PROGRESS OF SUI GAS DESCRIBED

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 Supplement p XIII, XIV

[Article by Shafique A. Qureshi, General Manager, Finance and Materials]

[Text]

**SUI GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY (SGTC)** is the oldest of the gas companies in Pakistan and is one of the largest public limited companies quoted on the stock exchange. It was incorporated as a public limited company on 13 February, 1954.

With the discovery of one of the largest gas reserves in the world at Sui by Pakistan Petroleum Limited, in 1952, Sui Gas Transmission Company Limited was prompted jointly by Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC) and the Burmah Oil Company (P.T.) Limited with the main objective of purification of natural gas at Sui and its transmission to industrial areas south of Sui upto Karachi.

**2. COMPANY'S OPERATIONS:** The company's prime areas of operations are:

- (i) Gas purification
- (ii) Gas transmission
- (iii) Pipeline construction services.

**GAS PURIFICATION:** The Company operates a large natural gas purification plant at Sui which comprises 9 purification banks with an overall purification capacity of 670 million cubic feet per day. Gas purified at the plant is fed to the company's own transmission system for delivery to the distribution companies in the southern areas of Pakistan, and also to Sui Northern Gas Pipeline's system for supply and distribution of gas to the northern areas of Pakistan.

**GAS TRANSMISSION:** The Company's high pressure gas transmission system presently comprises of two transmission lines. The total pipeline mileage is 652 miles and the present gas transmission capacity of the system is 270 million cubic feet per day. A brief description of the two transmission pipelines is given below:

(i) The 16 inches diameter, 347 miles long pipeline which was commissioned in September, 1955, passes along the left bank of river Indus via Rohri, Nawabshah and Hyderabad.

The designed free flow capacity of this pipeline is 75 MMCFD which is increased to 135 MMCFD with compression, there being two compressor stations located at Rohri and Nawabshah.

(ii) The 18 inches diameter, 305 miles long pipeline (IRBP) which was commissioned in March, 1977, passes along the right bank of river Indus via Shikarpur, Larkana, Dadu and Sehwan, also taking gas available from Sari/Hundi gas fields, owned by Oil and Gas Development Corporation, and located en route, about 40 miles short of Karachi.

The designed free flow capacity of this pipeline is 135 MMCFD. Compressors are being installed on this line which would raise the capacity of this line to 262 million cubic feet per day by June, 1983. Additional gas from Pirkoh gas field will also be transmitted through this system with the implementation of Pirkoh Gas Field Integration Project.



**PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES:** A full-fledged construction department was established by the company in 1973 for the purpose of carrying out departmentally the construction of SGTC's 18 inches diameter high pressure pipeline along the right bank of river Indus.

After successful completion of the IRBP Project, the Company decided to undertake pipeline construction work on contract basis mainly to utilise the acquired expertise and equipment available with the company. Major construction work undertaken by the company includes construction of PARCO Oil Pipeline and Quetta Gas Transmission Pipeline.

SGTC has already demonstrated full capabilities for constructing high pressure transmission pipeline in accordance with the internationally acceptable standards.

The Company is now well-equipped for undertaking the construction of Oil and Gas Pipelines and associated works for other organisations, both within and outside the country.

**3. MANAGEMENT:** Since 1 January, '72 the Chief Executive, appointed by the Board of Directors of the Company is responsible for managing the affairs of the Company under the overall control of the Board. Previously, the company's affairs were governed by the Burmah Oil Company (PT) Limited as managing agents under the overall control of the Board of Directors.

In 1972, the Board comprised 8 Directors which was enlarged to 13 members in keeping with the expansion in the company's activities. The Directors are drawn from both Government/ Semi-Government and private sectors.

#### 4. Growth and Performance in the Past Decade

(a) Financial growth: The past decade has witnessed phenomenal growth of the company which is demonstrated from the comparison of the current financial position of the company with the position 10 years ago, briefly summarised below:

	(Rs. million)		
	As at 30 Jun 1972	As at 30 June 1982	Increase
Fixed assets, at cost	261	1252	991
Capital work-in-progress	1	20	19
Other assets (net)	<u>1</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>216</u>
	263	1489	1226
	—	—	—
Financed as under:			
Paid-up share capital	38	360	322
Loans outstanding	84	479	395
Funds generated from operations retained (reserves, deferred liabilities, depreciation)	<u>141</u>	<u>650</u>	<u>509</u>
	263	1489	1226
	—	—	—

The assets of the company during the past decade increased by about four times.

**Additional Assets and Its Financing:** Over the years SGTC has continued to expand the purification capacity as well as the transmission capacity to meet the every-increasing energy demand of the country.

Ten years ago, at 30 June 1972, the company's fixed assets at original costs amounted to Rs. 261 million which increased to Rs. 1252 million at the end of June 1982, i.e., an addition of Rs 991 million mainly comprised:

	Rs. million
i) Indus Right Bank Pipeline commissioned in 1977 .....	744
ii) Microwave telecommunication network .....	51
iii) Construction machinery equipment .....	105
iv) Buildings .....	31
	<hr/> 931

On completion of the two projects which are currently being implemented, i.e., IRBP Compression Project and Pirkoh Gas Field Integration Project, the fixed assets would further increase by about Rs. 850 million by the end of 1983.

In addition to the above, two other Projects are at planning stage, i.e. expansion of gas purification and compression facilities at an estimated cost of Rs. 358 million and Lasbela Spur Link Project at an estimated cost of Rs. 162 million.

**Additional equity:** In the last decade the paid-up capital of the company has increased from Rs. 37.80 million to Rs. 359.75 million. During the period 1973-'76, an additional equity of Rs. 250 million was raised to meet a part of the rupee cost of IRBP pipeline, which was entirely subscribed by the Government of Pakistan.

In June 1982, a further additional equity of Rs. 71.950 million was raised by issuing right shares to the existing shareholders to meet a part of the local costs of the expansion projects of the company.

The Government of Pakistan has made available to the company the following loans from the Asian Development Bank to cover the foreign exchange component of the following projects:

	\$ million
(a) 1974 Phase II of the Indus Right Bank Project .....	43.170
(b) 1980 IRBP Compression Project ....	16.300
(c) 1981 Pirkoh Gas Field Integration Project .....	<u>25.200</u>
	<u>84.670</u>

Local Loans: In order to meet a part of rupee cost of the IRBP Project, the Company had issued debentures guaranteed by the Government of Pakistan amounting to Rs. 180 million to the consortium of financial institutions, out of which Rs. 177.2 million have already been repaid leaving a balance of Rs. 2.8 million only.

The Company has recently entered into agreement with the consortium of financial institutions for the issue of debentures of Rs. 151 million for meeting a part of the rupee cost of the IRBP Compression Project.

#### (b) Financial Results

(i) Sales: Gas is sold by the Company to the two distribution companies, namely, Karachi Gas Company Limited (KGC) and Indus Gas Company Limited (IGC). KGC is responsible for the distribution of gas in Karachi and IGC is responsible for other areas of Sind.

Gas sold to the distribution companies during the 10-year period ending 30 June 1982 amounted to 681,639 million cubic feet, i.e., an increase of 85 percent as compared to the 10-year period ending June 1972.

Increase in sales to Karachi Gas Company increased by 82 percent and to Indus Gas Company by 92 percent.

During the 10-year period ending June 1982 the sales of gas to the distribution companies amounted to Rs. 3154 million.

(ii) Profits: During the 10-year period ending June 1982, the pre-tax profits of the company aggregated to Rs. 512 million as compared to pre-tax profits of Rs. 120 million for the 10-year period ending June 1972.

Cash generated internally from the company's operations in the 10-year period ending June 1972 and June 1982 and its utilisation were as follows:

	10-year period ended June, 72	10-year period ended June, 82
Current tax	40	120
Dividends	45	220
Addition in assets and repayment of loans	106	509
	<u>191</u>	<u>849</u>

### (c) Projects Completed and in Hand

A brief description of the company's expansion projects is given below:

#### (i) Indus Right Bank Pipeline and Microwave telecommunication Network--Rs. 795 million

This project was implemented in two phases. The first phase of the project related to the construction of approximately 40 miles of pipeline from OGDC's Sari/Hundi Gas-fields to Karachi which was commissioned in June 1975.

Phase II of the project related to the construction of approximately 265 miles of 18 inches diameter pipeline from Sari Sind to Sui which was commissioned in March 1977.

To cater for the telecommunications, telemetry and supervisory control, the company has installed with the IRBP Project, a sophisticated and modern backbone VHF radio network with spur links with the old telecommunication system and VHF mobile radio facilities at a cost of Rs. 51 million.

#### (ii) Indus Right Bank Compression Project--Rs. 370 million

This project entails the installation of mainline compressor stations at Shikarpur and Dadu and side stream booster station at Sari/Hundi to increase the transmission capacity of IRBP Pipeline from 135 MMSCFD to about 262 MMSCFD.

The project is scheduled for completion by June, 1983, at an estimated cost of Rs. 370 million with a foreign exchange component of US \$ 16.3 million.

#### (iii) Pirkoh Gas Field Integration Project--Rs. 480 million

The additional gas requirement for the IRBP Compression Project are to be met from the Pirkoh Gas-field discovered by Oil and Gas De-

velopment Corporation (OGDC) in 1977. SGTC is presently implementing a scheme for the integration of this field with its Sui-Karachi transmission system at Sui.

The project involves the laying of an 18 inches diameter, 74 kilometer gas transmission pipeline from Pirkoh Gas-field to Sui. The project also involves a compressor station at Sui for continuous injection of Pirkoh Gas into SGTC's transmission system. The designed capacity of the system is 120 MMSCFD.

The total cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 480 million, including a foreign exchange component of about US \$ 25-million.

The project is expected to be in operation by the end of 1983.

### 5. PROJECTS UNDER PLANNING:

#### (i) Expansion of gas purification & compression facilities -- Rs. 358 million

The company has submitted a feasibility study to the Government for the installation of additional gas purification facilities at

Sui Purification Plant and additional compression facilities at the company's existing compression stations on the Indus left bank pipeline. These additional facilities would enable the company to avoid gas load shedding in the consumer areas served by the gas transmission systems of both SGTC and SNGPL in the event of any of the above facilities being off-stream for preventive maintenance or as a result of unscheduled shutdown.

The total cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 358 million with a foreign exchange component of approximately US \$ 18.4 million.

#### (ii) Lasbela Spur Link Project -- Rs. 162 million.

The company is also planning to lay a 14" diameter 56 Km long pipeline between Karachi and Lasbela with the objective of promoting industrial activity in the Lasbela district of Baluchistan. The total cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 162 million with approximately US \$ 6.2 million in foreign exchange.

**6. MAJOR PIPELINE  
CONSTRUCTION WORK  
UNDERTAKEN BY  
THE COMPANY IN THE  
PAST DECADE:**

(i) **Indus Right Bank Pipeline:** The Company established a full-fledged construction department in 1973 for the purpose of carrying out departmentally the construction of its 18 inches diameter high pressure pipeline along the right bank of the Indus River.

After completion of Phase I of the project (40 miles Sari-Sing to Karachi) the Asian Development Bank, who financed the IRBP Project, were convinced of SGTC's capabilities of constructing a high pressure transmission line in accordance with the internationally acceptable standards and agreed to departmental construction of Phase II of the Project (265 miles from Sui to Sari) waiving the condition of international tendering. However, it was made obligatory that SGTC's design and construction be vetted by an internationally recognised firm.

The route survey, design, engineering, construction and project management of the entire pipeline was carried out by the company's personnel.

The Project was complex and challenging. The project was completed on schedule and with considerable savings in cost and the pipeline was commissioned in March, 1977.

(ii) **PARCO OIL/CRUDE PIPELINE:** Pak Arab Refinery Limited (PARCO) awarded the contract to SGTC/SNGPL in 1978 to construct their 16 inches diameter pipeline for transportation of oil from Karachi to Kot Adu at an estimated contract value of Rs. 440 million.

The pipeline was successfully completed in 1980. SGTC's share of the contract amount was Rs. 206 million.

Successful completion of such a contract has increased the company's reputation in the international field of pipeline construction.

(iii) **QUETTA NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT:** This project is owned by the Government of Pakistan. SGTC was appointed as the 'Project Executing Agents' of the project. In pursuance of the directive of Government of Pakistan, SGTC carried out a comprehensive technical and economical feasibility study for the Quetta Pipeline Project, which was approved by the Government in September, 1980.

This Project was aimed at supplying natural gas to Quetta and intermediate towns along the pipeline route and involved the laying of a 344 km, 12 inches diameter pipeline from an offtake point 70 km downstream of Sui on the Sui-Karachi IRBP line. The designed free flow capacity of the Pipeline is 33 MMCFD.

The cost of this project is estimated at about Rs. 702 million, with a foreign exchange component of about Rs. 315 million being financed by the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development.

In its role as 'Executing Agents' of the project, SGTC has been solely responsible for design, engineering and project management. The construction of the pipeline has been undertaken by SGTC and SNGPL.

The pipeline is being commissioned on 6 January, 1983.

**7. OVERALL COMPANY'S PERFORMANCE:** The economy of the country is heavily dependent

on the Gas Industry since, amongst all the indigenous energy resources available, natural gas has made the maximum contribution which, in terms of oil equivalent, works out to about 5.5 million metric tons per annum, providing a foreign exchange savings of over Rs. 10 billion per annum.

The share of natural gas in the energy sector is about 42%, followed by petroleum products (36.5%), hydro-electric (16%), coal (5%) and other form of energy (0.5%). SGTC, being the premier gas purification/transmission company has played a vital role in the national economy.

The operation of the company has run round the clock, even during floods, conditions of war, etc. by a dedicated and highly motivated team of qualified, trained and experienced staff. The company is proud of maintaining uninterrupted supply of gas.

SGTC's phenomenal growth in the last decade has helped the company in gaining a vast and varied experience in design, engineering and installation of pipelines, compression facilities, gas purification facilities, telecommunication etc. In tangible terms, this has also led to the development of a stream of manpower possessing expertise hitherto very limited in the country, and has thereby contributed significantly towards influencing the character and pace of nation's development efforts.

SGTC profitability, has improved over the years. Simultaneously, SGTC has endeavoured to meet the expectations of the shareholders for a reasonable return on their investments. The rate of dividend has steadily increased over the years and is now 15½% for the last 3 years.

## ZIA INAUGURATES QUETTA GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 1

[Text]

QUETTA, Jan 6: President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq today inaugurated the 638 million-rupee Quetta natural gas pipeline project at Sariab, suburb of the provincial capital, ensuring supply of Sui gas for the first time to consumers in the province.

The gas was discovered about 30 years ago in Sui area of Baluchistan.

The expenditure involved on completion of the 344 kilometer long high pressure natural gas pipeline between Shikarpur and Quetta included foreign exchange component to the tune of 315 million rupees made available from Kuwait fund for Arab economic development as loan on easy terms. Besides Quetta 10 other towns of the province, through which the pipeline passes, would benefit from the project.

President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq while inaugurating the project said that it would usher in a revolution in the socio economic and industrial development of Baluchistan which had been put on the road to progress and prosperity due to personal interest of Governor Lt-Gen. Rahimuddin Khan, untiring efforts of the provincial administration and active co-

operation of the people of the province. The present government, he added, was determined to improve the lot of the people of Baluchistan which hitherto had been kept neglected.

He said that gas was a cheaper source of energy as compared to coal and oil and added that efforts were being made to continue to make optimum use of it.

He said that the Government was endeavouring to produce more and more oil and electricity to ensure progress and prosperity in the country. Pakistan, he pointed out, was now meeting 15 to 20 per cent of its oil requirements from indigenous production and had to import oil to the tune of about 1700 million dollars annually to meet its 80 to 85 per cent requirements. This, he said, was a growing burden on national economy.

President Zia-ul-Haq said that since Pakistan did not have enough conventional sources of energy it had become necessary to acquire nuclear technology to meet its energy requirements. He said that despite opposition and baseless allegations Pakistan as a matter of national necessity was engaged in its peaceful nuclear energy programme with a view to acquiring an alternate source of energy which

was also much cheaper than oil. He declared that Pakistan's programme was solely for peaceful purposes intended to meet its energy requirements and also for using it for the welfare of the people, particularly in the field of health. He referred in this connection to atomic medical centres at Peshawar, Lahore, Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Multan and Karachi, and said that a similar centre would be set up in Quetta during the next financial year.

President Zia said that with the commissioning of Quetta gas pipeline project Baluchistan had entered a new era of progress and prosperity. He said that all this had been done through the blessings of Almighty Allah and called for bowing heads in gratitude to Allah and pledging on this occasion to make Pakistan a true fortress of Islam by strictly adhering to the code of life given by Islam.

He paid tributes to those who worked day in and day out to accomplish the gigantic task and announced one month bonus to executives, workers and labourers of Sui Gas Transmission Company, Indust Gas Company and Sui Northern Gas Company for their hard and dedicated work in completing the project ahead of the schedule.

APP adds:



CANADIAN HELP IN SAINDAK COPPER ASSURED

Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 1

[Text]

QUETTA, Jan 6: President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq said today that the Canadian Government had given out an assurance to him that it would join the Pakistan Government in taking up the copper project at Saindak in Chagai district of Baluchistan and bear its burden fully.

Addressing a news conference in Quetta, he told a questioner that during his Canadian tour the provincial Government of Quebec assured its full participation in the Saindak project and an agreement on the subject was also signed.

The President said that much progress had been made in this regard and a concerned Minister from Canada would visit Pakistan this month or next month to sign an agreement on the feasibility study of phase one of the Saindak Project.

The President said that a number of other countries had also shown interest in taking up this project but Canada was ultimately given preference.

He said that during his tour of America and Canada he had assured the prospective investors about protection of their capital and provision of necessary facilities. He said that the procedure for investment in Pakistan was being further streamlined and simplified.



## INCREASE IN RAILWAY FARES OPPOSED

Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 6

[Text]

Mr Abbass Ba Wazeer, Central President of Pakistan Railway Employees (PREM) Union, has opposed the proposed increase in railway fares and said the people should not be made to suffer because of the 'financial crisis' in the railways.

Speaking at a reception given in his honour by the newly elected office-bearers of Station Master Group and Association, at Gulrang restaurant, he said the executive committee of PREM is meeting at Lahore on Jan 13 to discuss the proposed retrenchment of 32,000 railway workers.

### Causes for deficit

He alleged that the cause of Rs one billion deficit in Railways was revenue 'leakage', foreign tours, nepotism and exploitation of workers at the residences of officers.

He identified areas where a large number of workers and technicians

should be recruited instead of being retrenched, such as pointsmen, mechanics, electricians and Station Master etc., as most of the technical hands have found jobs in the Middle-East.

### Idle locomotives

He claimed that out of 30 locomotives recently imported from Japan for about Rs 300 million 10 were lying idle in Karachi Shed. It was discovered after the import that they were 'French engines' and not Japanese, he said.

Mr Abbass Ba Wazeer said the Railway administration was spending Rs 70 to 90 million annually on railway police yet there was no check on leakages, theft and pilferage.

He said the Railways were not providing empties (Wagons) to private sector. In fact, nearly 1,200 wagons load meant for Afghanistan, was lying for want of wagons.

CSO: 4600/211

# NETWORK OF SMALL INDUSTRIES PLANNED

Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 7

[Text]

**SIALKOT, Jan 6:** The Government is paying special attention towards setting up a network of small industries throughout the country, and for this purpose liberal allocations and provisions are being made in the Sixth Five-Year Plan.

Talking to PPI here on Wednesday, Sh. Ishrat Ali, Presidential Adviser for Commerce, said that industrialists would be provided with maximum credit and other facilities for installing small industries.

He said that small industrial estates at Sialkot, Gujranwala and Gujrat, had played a vital role in the industrial growth of the country. He held out an assurance that cottage industries, situated in narrow and dark lanes as well as thickly populated areas of the towns, would be given incentives for shifting to industrial estates so as to enable the Government to collect accurate statistics about them and to formulate correct policies in future.

Replying to a question, Sh. Ishrat Ali said that credit facilities up to Rs.30 million, including 50 per cent foreign exchange, would be provided to entrepreneurs.

The Export Processing Zone Advisor said, he had sanctioned 29 projects, of which one was already functioning. He added that foreign investors, particularly those belonging to the United States, the UK, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and West Germany, were taking keen interest in these projects.

Sh. Ishrat Ali praised the efforts of the present regime for bringing about agro-revolution in a very short time after which Pakistan had become not only self-sufficient but also able to export wheat, rice and sugar. The Government was providing every possible facility to growers for boosting agricultural produce.

Earlier, the Advisor visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry. —PPI

CSO: 4600/211

# NATIONAL LITERACY PLAN BEING FORMULATED

Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 8

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Jan 6: The Literacy and Mass Education Commission, set up last year by President Zia-ul-Haq, is presently engaged in evolving a national literacy plan to be implemented during the Sixth Five-Year Plan period.

Mr Inayatullah, Chairman of the Commission, talking to APP here on Wednesday said that about Rs. 225 crore will be required to meet this cherished goal. He said the Commission was holding discussions with the Planning Commission on this issue.

He said the Commission was mobilising the existing adult and mass education programmes in order to expedite the literary campaign in the country.

Mr Inayatullah said the Commission was in touch with the Provincial Governments to set up provincial Councils for Literary and Mass Education.

Replying to a question, the Chairman said the Commission was making efforts to complete its organisational and administrative set up to make it an effective body.

He said the Government would soon include two Ulema, four male and four female members from

non-Government organisations in the Commission.

The Chairman said the Commission has to take up various kinds of work including survey, research, training, experimental programmes, support to existing programmes and production of curricula as part of literacy campaign. He hoped that the Commission would be provided with sufficient powers,

funds and staff to make this campaign a success.

He said the local body institutions are being involved in the mass education programme and the Commission was coordinating with the National Education Council for this purpose.

On the question of priorities, he said special emphasis was to be given on female literacy and to expand and consolidate primary education.

The chairman, who recently participated in the World Conference on Literacy held at Madras. He said the conference discussed in depth to promote universal primary education. The participants exchanged experience of planning and management of the literacy programmes.

## USHR VS. LAND REVENUE CLARIFIED

Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 7

[Text]

THOUGH the Zakat and Ushr Ordinance was promulgated in 1979, the provisions regarding Ushr were kept in abeyance. It has taken long to work out the modalities and procedures for the collection and disbursement of Ushr, which is after all to come into force from next March. Whereas Ushr will be paid on a self-assessment basis by farmers at the uniform rate of five per cent on 75 per cent of the produce in both irrigated and Barani areas, there will be no levy on the share of the tenant, who is to pay his share direct to the deserving.

Like Zakat, the basic objective of the collection and disbursement of Ushr is to assist the needy, the disabled and the orphans in order to help them lead a life free from penury and destitution. Priority in this scheme of things goes to one's own poor relations. The takeover of the collection and distribution of Zakat/Ushr by the State might be warranted by the complexities of modern administration but the entire exercise is in discharge of a religious obligation. In this context, Zakat has not meant doing away with income tax and customs and excise duties, and rightly so. Zakat has to be paid by every Sahib-i-Nisab in addition to income tax and other

taxes and imposts wherever due. Income tax and duties are sources of government revenue which finances the working of the machinery of the State, whereas Zakat is meant for the welfare and consumption needs of the poor as prescribed by the Holy Quran. Similar are the objectives of Ushr, and there is no ambiguity about them at all. It is difficult to see how the payment of Ushr on fulfilment of a religious obligation can exonerate the landowners from the obligation to pay revenue to the State.

Ushr and land revenue are entirely different in nature, and the former is not a substitute for the latter. As it is, the rate of land revenue is low. Further, there is no tax on income from agriculture, and rich farmers practically bear no tax burden, the Abiana being a service charge for irrigation water. Equity in taxation demands that agriculturists earning higher income should be required to make an adequate contribution to the State's revenues. Thus alone will it be possible to mobilise the resources needed for promoting the welfare of the rural masses and for developing the infrastructure for more rapid economic and social development.

CABINET APPROVES USHR PROCEDURES

Karachi DAWN in English 10 Jan 83 pp 1, 10

[Text] Rawalpindi, Jan 9--The Federal Cabinet in its meeting on Sunday took a number of important decisions, including modalities and procedures for collection and disbursement of Ushr being enforced from March next and strict punitive measures to curb trafficking in narcotics.

With President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq being slightly indisposed, the meeting was conducted by Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan. The President later gave formal approval to the recommendations of the Cabinet.

A spokesman of the Cabinet explained the Cabinet decisions at a Press briefing in the afternoon.

Stringent punitive measures have been provided for trafficking of narcotics and sentence for trafficking, financing and possession of narcotics has been enhanced to life imprisonment through amendments in the Dangerous Drugs Act of 1930.

The Cabinet also approved amendments to a number of laws including the Anti-dumping Law, the Banking Companies Ordinance, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the National Development Finance Corporation Act of 1973.

According to the latter amendment, the Corporation would now extend its loan facilities to private sector against its previous practice of extending these facilities to the public sector.

The cabinet approved agreements between the Kuwait Radio and Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation and the State establishment for Radio and Television of Iraq.

The spokesman said these agreements were meant to strengthen cooperation between Pakistan and Kuwait and Iraq under cultural agreements.

The Cabinet offered Fateha for the departed soul of one of their colleagues, Maj-Gen (rtd) Jamaladar.

Giving the salient features of the system of Ushr, Mr I.A. Imtiaz, Secretary, Ministry of Religious Affairs, said Ushr will be received from farmers from the next Rabi crop. It will be received at the uniform rate of five percent on 75 percent of the produce in both irrigated and Barani areas. The remaining 25 percent of the produce has been left as a relief estimation.

He said though the Zakat and Ushr Ordinance was promulgated in 1979, however, the provisions of the Ushr were not implemented at that time. He said it had been decided not to levy Ushr on the share of tenant. However, this will not absolve him of his own religious duty to pay Ushr. He is religiously bound to pay the same voluntarily to Mustahiqeen, he added.

Mr Imtiaz said the modalities and procedures of collecting, depositing and distributing Ushr were thoroughly discussed in Sunday's meeting. The meeting after long discussions considered four grounds for the collection, deposition and distribution of Zakat. They are:

(a) Area sown, (b) the types of crop grown, (c) the average yield per acre obtained and lastly (d) average farm gate prices.

Mr Imtiaz said it was difficult to assess all the above four factors at national level to arrive at a consensus. Therefore, he said, after thorough consultations it was decided that the assessment should be made by the producer himself as he is in a better position to assess on the basis of these four principles.

### Assessment

Mr Imtiaz said in majority of cases the assessment will be made by the producers, who will deposit the same to the local Zakat Committees. These bodies will by and large accept their claims. However to avoid any under-estimation by the producer, and to keep a cross-check on the producer, the local Zakat Committee will, wherever it deems fit, revise the assessment. The decision of the local Zakat Committee can be challenged in the Tehsil Zakat Committee by the producer, but he would have to deposit 50 per cent of the revised estimate in advance before filing an appeal.

Similarly, in order to have a check on the local Zakat Committees, so that these bodies do not indulge in any irregularity by under-estimating or over-estimating Ushr, the district and

Tehsil Zakat Committees would look after them. The District and Tehsil Zakat Committees would provide an indicative figure regarding indicative low yield per acre and indicative low farm-gate prices to the local committees. If the local committees deviate from the indicative figures, the members of the body would have to provide sufficient evidence to satisfy the Tehsil and District Zakat Committees, he added.

### Collection

Regarding the system of collecting Ushr, Mr Imtiaz said it would be collected in the same manner as revenue is collected in villages i.e. through Lambardars of the villages. However, he added, the committees have been empowered to seek assistance of any other agency also for this purpose.

He said Ushr will be distributed in the same manner as Zakat is be-

ing distributed, and Ushr money would be utilised for financial help and rehabilitation of real "Mustahiqeen".

He said another important issue, as to whether Ushr money can be spent on the community development, is also under serious consideration of the Cabinet. No decision has been taken on this issue. He said: "We are consulting notable religious scholars on the subject and seeking their opinion. A questionnaire has also been distributed to leading scholars, Ulama and other persons in all walks of life in this regard. The decision to this effect, he said, would be taken by the Cabinet later.

In reply to a question Mr Imtiaz said in all Ushr would be enforced in 45,000 villages throughout Pakistan. When asked the estimated money to be collected in this fund, he said: "It is difficult to give the exact figures at this stage."

## OBSERVANCE OF PRESS FREEDOM DAY PLANNED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Jan 83 p 6

[Text]

KARACHI, Jan. 2: The Biennial Delegates Meeting of Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ), has expressed its concern over further deterioration of Press-government relationship, and has announced to observe Press Freedom Day all over the country to express its indignance over present repressive policy of government, the date of which will be decided by the newly-elected Federal Executive Council soon.

In the resolutions passed by the BDM in its recent meeting here and issued to the Press yesterday, it has been said that the attitude of the government towards the national Press has become harsher since Oct 1979, when a number of newspapers and journals were closed down and complete Press censorship was imposed which had been replaced only this year by a strict Press advice system.

The journalists along with the people have been deprived of the basic right of expression and press freedom. Hundreds of journalists have been rendered jobless due to closure of papers. During this period restrictions were imposed on movement of journalists from one place to another,

and 'black laws' were used ruthlessly against newspapers and working journalists.

The resolution further said, the PFUJ has been constantly raising its voice against all such repressive measures. It was the result of these protests and pressures of PFUJ that the government was compelled to lift pre-censorship from the daily newspapers. The resolution criticised what it termed the economic pressures put on newspapers and journals to dissuade them from writing the truth. Their advertisements were curtailed and facilities to import newsprint is denied. On the contrary, the government was patronising anti-workers and anti-people organisations of journalists and newspaper workers, by giving them all facilities by appointing through different means.

"All these actions of threat and greed are aimed at curbing the dissent voice, and to dish out one-sided propaganda of government. It has subverted the creative spirit of the people and their aspirations to live as honourable citizens of a free country. It has covered up all kinds of corruption and bureaucratic excesses. Such an attitude is undermining the national

security, stability and territorial integrity despite the government's tall claims of safeguarding the country's ideological and geographical frontiers."

The meeting views with concern the attempts being made by editors and newspaper owners to suggest a code of conduct for the Press in the presence of Martial Law Regulations and black laws. Further, we shall not accept any code of conduct formed without taking the PFUJ into confidence". The resolution said.

"This BDM believes that the source of most of the problems is the Martial Law, and absence of civil liberties including Press freedom. Therefore this meeting demands: Martial Law be lifted and all extraordinary laws including abnoxious Press and Publications Ordinance be repealed forthwith. Pre-censorship over opinion journals be lifted, newspapers and periodicals closed down by government should be restored, the practice of Press advice and bureaucratic interference be discontinued, and discrimination on political basis in the matters of granting declarations and distribution of official advertisements be done away with and all civil liberties be restored and curbs on trade union activities be lifted forthwith."



**MULTAN NEWSMEN'S PROTEST REPORTED**

**Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 23 Dec 82 pp 15-16**

[Text]

**JOURNALISTS** here held a protest meeting on Friday, demanding the withdrawal of Section 499 and cases registered against five newspapers of Multan under Section 500.

They noted with grave concern that in spite of a clear promise by the CMLA-President that no case would be registered against any journalist under Sections 499 and 500, the Multan police had done so.

A general body meeting of the Anjuman-i-Sahafian, Multan, decided to boycott the news of the district administration and asked the journalists to perform their duties wearing protest armbands.

On Dec. 15, the police arrested Saeed Siddiqui, in charge of the reporting section of Daily 'Imroze', Multan, on a complaint filed by the Multan Development Authority for publishing a news item about the death of a child who fell into an uncovered manhole. Police raided Mr. Siddiqui's house at night and arrested him without warrants.

He was later released on bail by a local magistrate.

A few days back, police also registered cases under Section 500 against the editors, publishers printers and reporters of five newspapers on a complaint from the Deputy Mayor of the Multan Corporation.

MINISTER SAYS BALUCHISTAN TO BE DEVELOPED FAST

Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 8

[Text]

QUETTA, Jan 6: The Federal Minister for Communications, Mr Mohyuddin Baluch, has said that due to President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq's special directions and interest, Baluchistan soon will be brought on a par with the developed areas of Pakistan. The Minister was addressing Postal employees here on Wednesday.

He added that the present Government did not hesitate in spending money on the development of Baluchistan. That is why Sui Gas supply to Baluchistan had been made before the scheduled time irrespective of the cost of the

project.

The Federal Minister went round the various sections of the Post Master General's office. Later he inspected the General Post Office.

It may be recalled that this new independent Postal Circle was formed in July 1981 under the directives of the Federal Communication Minister. Three new Postal Divisions have also been formed with their headquarters at Sibi, Khuzdar and Turbat.

The employees demanded Hill Allowance. The Minister assured them that he would try his best to solve all their problems as early as possible.—APP.

## DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN BALUCHISTAN SURVEYED

Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 Supplement p IX &amp; XII

[Article by S.R. Poonegar]

[Text]

BERNARD SHAW had said, "Art should never be didactic". Similarly developmental effort should not be over-instructive, because development should be visible, it should create an impact, it should alter the quality of the life of the poor and finally it should arouse the aspirations of the people so that they are confident about the future. The development programmes in Baluchistan have exactly created this effect.

Baluchistan, a slumbering giant rendered drowsy through past neglect, has only recently stretched itself awake and is now jogging on the path to progress.

Brisk developmental activity is visible everywhere. In the urban areas incomes have soared and people are living well. Bazaars are full of articles of daily use, numerous cars, vans and pickups are an index of the economic activity. Vegetable and fruit markets are a treat to watch in Quetta. Labour in towns, on constructional activity or in workshops are highly paid.

A multiplication and snowballing effect is taking place in all economic activities. But the urban area in Baluchistan which is only 14% of the total area of Baluchistan has yet to go very far. In the 6th Plan sewerage, drainage and more satellite towns are being planned and implemented. Currently a ma-

for Water Supply Scheme is being implemented through the grant given by a friendly country.

However, the visual effect of development is clearly discerned in the rural area. Years ago if one travelled in any direction in Baluchistan, the stark aridity was striking and the constant barren landscape was depressing. But now along the highways and in the interior one sees a quiet agricultural revolution. Electric transmission pylons resembling giants playing tug-of-war have changed the landscape.

Tubewells and open surface wells dot the surface of the land at close intervals. Since each tubewell on an average irrigates 100 acres the valleys have turned green. For instance, Mangocher was a desolate valley, now it is drilled with holes for tubewells. It is a common sight to see water being pumped out in surface tanks only to irrigate onions, potatoes and cummin seed fields.

The tractors have replaced bullocks and camels and during the harvesting season one sees bags of vegetables stacked against each other ready to be transported to markets all over Pakistan. The ground water investigation programmes are now almost completed. The investigations costing Rs.300 million, carried out through sophisticated means have revealed the extent of water resources in each valley and basin in the Province.

The safe yields have been quantified and now the Province is

poised to pump out the ground water through a battery of tubewells which shall irrigate thousands of acres. Two such projects in Nasai and Bela have already been approved by ECNEC and are now on the anvil for execution by Baluchistan Development

Authority.

Since water pumped by tubewells is costly, the farmer is intelligent enough to use it for high value crops. Fruit growing has assumed large dimensions and the fruit growing farmer earns, on an average, Rs.60,000/- per acre. Recently two large irrigation projects financed by the Kuwait Government and the World Bank have been launched. These projects envisage the construction of dams, weirs and infiltration galleries to tap perennial surface flow.

These installations shall be designed by experienced engineers who shall also train local engineers so that similar schemes shall be undertaken in the future by local expertise. On the project areas agriculture extension work shall be done so that inputs such as good seed, fertiliser and on-farm management techniques are introduced. Both the schemes will affect 14,500 families owning 1.50 lac acres of land. Their incomes will increase by 200 to 600 per cent.

Since 65% of the total labour force derives its livelihood from agriculture, 56% of the Province's Gross Domestic Product is contributed directly by the agriculture sector and since Baluchistan produces 50% of Pakistan's total fruit production, hence the Provincial Government's strategy is to give high priority to the development of water and agriculture.

In the water sector, emphasis is also laid on drinking water supply schemes. For this purpose a 3-pronged attack has been launched. Water supply schemes are being planned and implemented through a new programme, named Baluchistan Integrated Area Development, which is assisted by UNICEF. Water supply schemes are also implemented by BDA and the Irrigation Department.

Similarly, in all other sectors

meaningful schemes with an eye towards improving the life of the people have been launched. Roads such as RCD Highway and DG Khan-Loralai link have brought Baluchistan closer to other Provinces. Because of the large area and the small volume of traffic it may not be feasible to construct metalled roads all over the Province. Hence the Provincial Government's policy is to have shingle roads as far as possible. For this purpose, recently 120 graders have been imported from Japan. These graders will also be used for constructing farm to market roads in the rural areas.

In the social sectors of Health and Education policies have been designed to give impetus to primary education and basic health. Schools have now been established in virtually all important villages and mosque Schools are being set up to lend further coverage. A Cadet College is also being set up at Mastung.

For the first time emphasis is being laid on the preventive side in the Health Sector. Expanded Immunization Programmes have been chalked out to cater to a large segment of the population.

How did this sudden transformation come about? Development is a slow process and it would have been slower in Baluchistan if the traditional approach would have been adopted. But in 1977 the present Government took bold and imaginative steps. Large allocations were made in the Provincial Annual Development Programme, the percentage increase is 320 since 1977.

Federal Government's Programmes which were half-hearted attempts before 1977, now took on a meaningful shape. Transmission Lines criss-crossed the countryside. Federal communication systems were more effective. The Federal Development Programmes shot up from Rs.841 million in 1977, to Rs.2310 million, in 1982-83. As if this was not enough the Federal Finance Minister pleaded with friendly countries for development grants for

Baluchistan. The response was quick and adequate.

In the first year of the launching of the Special Development Programme for Baluchistan financed by friendly countries the allocation was Rs.850 million. For the first time in the history of Pakistan, allocations were made outside the Annual Development Programme for the development of a particular Province. This reflects the anxiety of the Government to develop Baluchistan on a crash basis so that it is brought to the economic level attained by other Provinces.

For the rapid development of Baluchistan the traditional cost-benefit ratios have been shelved and even projects not meeting the strict economic criteria have been implemented. One such major project is the completion of the gas transmission line to Quetta. When General Zia-ul-Haq made this commitment in 1978, some persons raised their eye-brows and said: "It is a tall order". But the commitment has been fulfilled and gas is now flowing in the homes of Quetta and other towns along the transmission route.

Lt-Gen Rahimuddin Khan, Governor of Baluchistan, once equated the Sui Gas Transmission Project with the construction of the Railway Line through the Bolan Pass to Quetta. However, there was one vast difference between the two projects. The railway line brought to Quetta by the British was for maintaining law and Order, it was in their interest to maintain a good communication system to transport troops from the interior of India to the frontiers.

The project had little impact in those days on the development of the Province. But in the case of the Sui Gas Project the lives of the people will be transformed.

Sui energy shall be brought literally to the hearth of thousands of houses. It will warm houses, it will cook food, it will run industries and it will run power stations. But more than anything else it will give the people of Baluchistan a sense of belonging for they will understand and rejoice because it will be their own resource which they will be using.

# TECHNICAL EDUCATION TO BE EXPANDED IN SIND

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 8

[Article by Ghaus Shah]

[Text]

The Sind Education Minister, Syed Ghaus Ali Shah, said that the present government was determined to expand technical education services, for the benefit of additional number of youth.

Speaking as chief guest at the three-day workshop organised by the Child Welfare Association (CWA) at the Liaquat Memorial Library in Karachi yesterday he said the authorities were fully aware of the importance of the technical education, in today's world. No country, he said, could take strides towards its socio-economic development unless its manpower was adequately equipped with the latest technical expertise of the various fields of science and technology.

He further stated that we required imparting of such education only, as provided job opportunities to the pupils readily, hence, the importance of technical education is utmost.

Syed Ghaus Ali Shah said that adequate stress was also being attached to enhancing of the general standard of education in the province. In this connection, certain specific and pragmatic measure have lately been adopted, he added.

In this context, however, the Education Minister highlighted the obligation falling upon the parents of the pupils, as well. He said nothing praiseworthy could be achieved in respect of enhancement of the general standard of education, unless the parents performed their duties as responsi-

ble wards to pupils.

Syed Ghaus Ali Shah disclosed that the government had planned a crash programme for mass education in Sind, so that the younger generation is extended maximum possible education facilities.

He in this connection, pinpointed the scheme of Masjid, Mohalla and community schools. The scheme is to benefit both the rural and urban sections of the population. The same is to benefit the rural areas enormously, where primary schools were not available.

The Masjid and Mohalla schools shall have readily available tutors, in the form of Imams and 'Ustans', respectively for boys and girls, he stated. At these teaching centres, the pupils shall be imparted academic education, besides the teaching of already in bogue religious education.

The Sind Education Minister stated that the provincial government was vigorously pursuing the national education policy, and stage-wise, we were moving ahead in shifting over to national language, with replacement of English by Urdu, as medium of instruction. Uptil now, the mode of instruction upto fourth class in Sind had been changed from English into Urdu. However, English continued as a compulsory subject in these classes.

Syed Ghaus Ali Shah hoped that the workshop shall prove successful in forwarding useful recommendations about betterment of the standard of education.

The speakers included, the City Mayor, Mr Abdul Sattar Afghani.—APP

# SIND BODY TO BE SET UP FOR UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Dec 82 p 1

[Text]

Sind Governor Lt. Gen. S.M. Abbasi yesterday told the Sind Council that a provincial commission will be set up to compile statistics and suggest recommendations to solve the unemployment problem of the youth.

He, however, said that the setting up of the commission would be announced after assessing the workload of the problem.

The Governor was winding up the debate on a motion moved by Miss Shamim Kazmi for discussing measures to improve employment opportunities for youth in rural and urban areas.

The Governor said that setting up of a directorate of youth employment in the Labour Department could also be considered. Such a directorate could be entrusted with the job of compiling statistics on the subject which, at present, were not available with the provincial Government.

The Governor pointed out that job opportunities were available in three sectors — the public sector, private sector and that of self-employment.

He pointed out that as regards the public sector was concerned the Government was held responsible for providing job opportunities on the one hand, while on the other, it was criticised for having an expensive administration and expanded bureaucracy.

He said that this contradiction should be removed. In this regard, he stressed the need for launching public works programmes in which not only people could get jobs, but also the pace of development could be maintained. He said in a country like Pakistan ours should be the labour intensive policy so that maximum job opportunities could be made available to the people.

Similarly, while referring to the speech of the provincial Finance and Industries Minister, the Governor stressed the need for use of Pakistan-made products so that with an increase in their demand more industries could come up to make more job opportunities available to the people.

In this regard, he said, more industries be set up in the rural areas to overcome growing unemployment there.

## INSTITUTION FOR ELIMINATION OF BEGGARY STARTED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Jan 83 p 6

[Text]

KARACHI, Jan. 2: Lt-Gen. S.M. Abbasi, Governor of Sind, today performed the foundation-stone laying ceremony of Rs. 7.5 million permanent rehabilitation centre for beggars, the first of its kind in the country.

The centre —called the 'Darul Falah' is located on a 20 acre plot in the Korangi area, and is being established by the Karachi Administration.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt-Gen. Abbasi said the present government, with the co-operation of the Pakistani people, was striving for the creation of an Islamic welfare state.

He said in such a country social ills like beggary should be eliminated, and the foundation of the Darul Falah was merely the first step towards this goal.

He noted that while some beggars were able-bodied men who exploited the humanitarian feelings of the general public, others were forced to seek alms from their more fortunate brethren due to illness or physical handicaps.

A different approach should be adopted with regard to these two kinds of beggars, he continued,

adding that while action under the 'Vagrancy Act' must be taken against the "professional type" of beggars, genuinely ill people who had no other means of survival but begging should be looked after and where possible, rehabilitated by teaching them some trade through which they could earn their living.

He said in the first stage of the project, residential accommodation for 150 people would be provided at the Darul Falah, with separate dormitories for men and women.

Professional instructions will provide vocational training to the inmates in a variety of trades, ranging from radio electronics, welding, poultry farming and gardening to tailoring and embroidery.

The Sind Governor said the inmates would cook their own food and keep the premises clean.

He said the Darul Falah will be financed through the sale of goods made at the institution by the inmates, investment of funds (to be raised through the sale of the plot of land on which the present "poor peoples home" is situated in Gulshan-e-Iqbal), government grants

and private donations.

The Darul Falah was a type of institution which deserved to be the receipt of Zakat funds, he added.

Lt-Gen. S.M. Abbasi said the correct way to eliminate beggary was through the rehabilitation of beggars, and the establishment of institutions like the Darul Falah would eventually achieve this goal.

Earlier, Begum Tazeen Faridi, Provincial Minister for Social Welfare, said the poor peoples home in Gulshan-e-Iqbal was not a success since to there were no provisions in it for the vocational training of beggars.

She said just rounding up beggars under the Vagrancy Act and showing them in jail, or putting them into a poor peoples home for a limited period of time could not eliminate such a social ill as beggary, because the beggars were not taught how to earn their living at such places.

Beggars should be treated humanely and rehabilitated by teaching them a proper trade so that they became full-fledged members of society capable of productive work, she stressed. — AFP



ENTREPRENEURS RELUCTANT TO TAKE OVER NATIONALIZED UNITS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Jan 83 p 8

[Article by Saeed Qureshi]

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 2--Illahi Bukhsh Soomro, Federal Industries Minister, said here today that government was quite liberal in sanctioning new industrial units in the private sector.

This, he said, was evident from the fact that units worth Rs. 38 billion have been sanctioned in three years which he claimed was four times more than what was sanctioned in ten years before the present government. He was talking to 'The Muslim' in an exclusive interview. Replying to question about the performance of the new units, the Industries Minister said that the industrial sector was handicapped due to energy problem but added that after the gestation period was over newly sanctioned units would find enough fuel and energy for smooth sailing.

Supporting governments disinvestment policy, he said, despite all the best intentions on the part of the government, private entrepreneurs were reluctant to take over the nationalised units.

Making a pointed reference to the ghee units, he said prospective buyers were attaching strings and such conditions for takeover which were not favourable to the government.

In reply to another question about "Free Industrial Zones," he said 32 units have been approved so far but in effect very few people had actually come to work there.

He said it was too early to assess or speculate about the success of these zones but said of late some Gulf investors have evinced interest in the zone at Karachi.

He dispelled the rumours that Utility Stores Corporation was being wound up. By way of elaboration he said the Corporation was fundamentally a service organisation working on the basis of "no profit-no loss."

He said the past losses of the Corporation cannot be made good but added that now its performance had considerably improved. He hoped the Corporation would be able to turn the tide and start earning marginal profits and further improving its image.

CSO: 4600/206

INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGES PLANNED IN KARACHI

Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 8

[Text] The Academic Council of Karachi University has approved the setting up of an Institute of Languages at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,34,000 under the Arts Faculty.

The proposal will now go to the Syndicate and then to the University Grants Commission.

At a meeting on Sunday, the council also approved a proposal to name the Faculty of Arts as Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities.

Discussing a communication from the Karachi University Students' Union about the Semester System it decided to ask the KUSU to suggest alternatives/options.

The council approved a suggestion for introducing evening classes for a one-year diploma course in Public Administration for which admissions will begin soon.

It granted permission to the Karachi College for Women to introduce Islamic Studies in B.A. classes, and allowed the Government Science College (Malir) to teach B.Sc. Chemistry course. The provisional affiliation of Government Girls College (Saudabad) was further extended.

The council also approved introduction of M.Ed. classes at the Campus from the next academic session.

CSO: 4600/213

## PAKISTAN

### BRIEFS

**NIGERIAN PRESIDENT VISITS**--Nigerian President Shehu Shagari will arrive in Pakistan on 28 January for a 5-day state visit. The foreign secretary told Radio Pakistan this morning that the Nigerian President is visiting at the invitation of President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq. He will hold talks with the Pakistan President on bilateral, regional and international issues. [Text] [BK140246 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Jan 83]

**U.S. AIRCRAFT ARRIVE**--F-16 aircraft purchased by Pakistan from the United States arrived in Pakistan this afternoon. Three more aircraft are due to arrive within a few days, according to the program. A group of six pilots and technical experts of the Pakistan Air Force had undergone training in the United States in this regard. [Text] [BK151653 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 15 Jan 83]

**UN MILITARY OBSERVERS**--Brigadier (Thomas A. Johnson), chief of the UN military observers in Pakistan, called on President Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi today. He exchanged views with the president on matters of mutual interest. [Text] [BK161632 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Jan 83]

**AFGHANISTAN DIALOGUE**--It is expected that Cordovez, personal representative of the UN Secretary General on Afghanistan, will arrive in Islamabad on 23 January to continue the dialogue for a comprehensive settlement of the Afghanistan issue. Before coming to Islamabad he will visit Tehran. An official spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that after 3 days of talks in Islamabad, Cordovez will go to Kabul. If necessary, it is possible that he may visit Islamabad again and continue the process. [Text] [BK161628 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Jan 83]

**AFGHAN GUERRILLAS EXECUTE OFFICERS**--Peshawar, 4 Jan--Afghan freedom fighters have executed two Afghan military intelligence officers in Qandahar Bazar in Herat. They were Col Fida Mohammad and Major Aminullah. The freedom fighters also shot one government informer named Shori. Six Afghan soldiers have defected to the guerrillas in Herat. [GF170732 Lahore JANG in Urdu 5 Jan 83 p 8]

STUDENTS' RELEASE DEMANDED--The Central Joint Secretary of Jeay Sind Students Federation, Khawaja Ghulam Husain has demanded the release of their Central President, Gul Mohammad Jhakrani and other students who have recently been arrested. Addressing a Press conference yesterday, he called for the withdrawal of rustication orders against the students of Sind and said they would start a movement for the acceptance of their demands. He also condemned the decisions to abolish Honours classes and Semester system at Karachi University. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 6]

ACTING GOVERNOR OF SIND--Lt-Gen Ahmad Jamal Khan, Corps Commander, is to take acting charge of Sind Governor, at a ceremony today at the Governor's House, as the Governor, Lt-Gen S.M. Abbasi, is to leave for Rome to attend a meeting of the 1983 Gold Mercury International Presidential Committee. The Sind Chief Justice, Mr Justice Abdul Hayee Kureshi, will administer the oath of office. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 1]

SITUATION IN LANDIKOTAL NORMAL--Peshawar, Jan 11--Situation in Landikotal has returned to normal after the release of three tribal elders, held the other day on the pretext of their being involved in creating tension among the tribesmen. These tribal elders include Haji Gulab Khan Shinwari, an ex-MPA, Mr Hayat Khan Shinwari and Mr Nadar Khan Shinwari. Landikotal bazar reopened after a closure of three days.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 4]

STUDENTS' RELEASE DEMANDED--Hyderabad, Jan 11--The Jeeay Sind Students Federation has demanded immediate release of their arrested colleagues for the restoration of a congenial atmosphere in educational institutions. The Central office-bearers of the Federation addressing a Press conference on Monday demanded that Gul Mohammad Jakhani should be set free. They opposed the settlement of the Biharis and others in Sind to cope with the present unemployment situation. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 4]

RESENTMENT ON REFUGEES VOICED--Mr Iqbal Haider, Secretary-General of the defunct Qaumi Mahaz-i-Azadi, yesterday expressed his concern at the alleged involvement of the Afghan refugees in the country's internal affairs. In a statement he also slated a defunct political party for "using the Afghan refugees were in Pakistan purely on humanitarian grounds and they should not align themselves with the politics of the country. He also said they should be referred to as "Panah-Guzeen" and not "Muhajreen" as they had sought temporary shelter. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 8]

TOWN NAME TO STAY--Toba Tek Singh, Dec 22--The members of the local Municipal Committee rejected a proposal to change the name of the city with majority. The proposal to give new name of Khalidabad instead of Toba Tek Singh was rejected under the plea that it will mean to ignore the great social services of one Tek Singh who used to serve the passengers with cold water some 150 years back and the city was named after him.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 23 Dec 82 p 4]

ADVOCATE, TWO OTHERS HELD--K.I. Khan, Jan 6--Syed Safdar Abbas Bokhari advocate, a local leader of defunct PPP, was held by the Anti-subversion Special Cell yesterday from the premises of kutchery and later taken to Peshawar. He has been held on the basis of a Peshawar police station FIR dated March 29, 1981 under 112-B Law of Conspiracy and Martial Law Regulation No. 18. In the meanwhile, another two persons, namely Ghulam Abbas Shah alias Bagghi Shah and Qadir Durrani have also been held by the city police under 16 MP and 294 PPC. They have been charged with involvement in disturbance of law and order situation and spreading hatred against the Government.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 6]

MAGAZINES BANNED--Karachi, Dec 28--The Sind Government has banned a magazine, Nida-i-Baluchistan, volume 2 and 9 because it contained objectionable material. The government has also ordered forfeiture of all its copies under Sec 39 of the West Pakistan Press and Publications Ordinance 1963.--PPI [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 29 Dec 82 p 8]

NEW ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SECRETARY--Lahore, Jan 10--Mr Anwar Zahir, member, Board of Revenue, Punjab, has been appointed as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Government of Pakistan. He succeeds Mr Masoodur Rauf, who has been appointed as Executive Vice-President in charge of External Relations and Research in Dar-al-Maal Islami, Geneva.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 3]

CONCERN OVER OIL PRICES--Lahore, Jan 10--Mian Tufail Mohammad, head of defunct, Jamaat-i-Islami, has expressed concern over the increase in oil and gas prices and called for revision of Government decision in this regard. He said that with the increase of gas and oil prices the rates of all other essential commodities would also rise, thus causing further hardships to the salaried class. He said that in the light of the decision of oil producing countries not to increase oil prices in the years 1982-83 the step taken by the Government was not understandable and seemed unjustified. He said that the increase in oil and gas prices would not only enhance the hardships of common man but would also affect the industrial growth.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jan 83 p 12]

PLEA FOR ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE--Lahore, Jan 11--Mir Nabi Bux Zehri, Chairman of the Pakistan Rabita Council, today urged President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq to convene a round table conference of all political parties to resolve the political problems confronting the country. The proposed RTC should be attended by the entire presidential team and the political parties, including the ones labelled as "anti-State." He was addressing a Press conference here. Mr Zehri reiterated his proposal for revival of the Senate with members on its list in July 1977. The Senate was a "permanent body" under the 1973 Constitution and was dormant at present as the Constitution was held in abeyance. Thus the Senate was not dissolved, he added.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 9]



TI LEADER'S MEMBERSHIP RESTORED--Lahore, Dec 24--The Central Executive of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqlal which met at Peshawar on Dec 23-24 has decided to restore the basic membership of Mr Nafees Saddiqi. The appeal of Mr Younus Khan was, however, rejected and action taken against him was confirmed by the meeting. In one of the resolutions, the meeting called for the release of detained students, lawyers and labourers. The meeting also decided to celebrate the birthday of their party leader, Retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan throughout the country on Jan 17, 1983.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Dec 83 p 10]

STEEL MELTING PLANTS CLOSING--Lahore, Jan 1--As many as 12 more steel melting furnaces have applied for disconnection of power from WAPDA within a period of about one week and many more are reported to follow suit. According to a press release of Pakistan Steel Melters Association the closure of these steel melting furnaces would deprive as many as 25 thousand labour of their livelihood whereas it would reduce production of steel to the tune of about 15,000 tonnes, As for the government, it will lose a revenue of about Rs. 15 crore annually as electricity charges. Sh. Anwarul Haq, Chairman, Pakistan Steel Melters Association, has expressed deep concern over the "deepening crisis" in the steel melting industry which now stands at the brink of extinction. He told an emergent meeting of the association about his efforts to bring life to the industry. He said that steep fall in the prices of old ships for breaking and high cost of electricity were two major reasons for the crisis in the steel melting industry. He called upon the government to pay urgent attention to the problems of the industry. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Jan 83 p 8]

PPP WORKER, WIFE FREED--Lahore, Jan 1--Rana Shaukat Mehmood, Secretary-General of defunct Pakistan Peoples Party, Punjab, has been set at liberty by Martial Law authorities following a detention of about 21 months. Begum Nasira Shoukat Mehmood has also been released after about 9 months' detention. Rana Shukat Mehmood was arrested in March 1981 under MLOs 12 and 82 and was lodged at the Lahore Fort for about three months. During his incarceration at Kot Lakhpat Jail he developed hypertension and angina pectoris and was shifted to Services Hospital in March 1982. In the same month Begum Nasira Shoukat Mehmood was also taken into custody and was lodged at Lahore Fort. In July last year the couple was shifted their residence at Canal Park and detained there after declaring the residence a 'sub-jail.' The release orders were served on them yesterday in the afternoon. Rana Shaukat Mehmood, whose health has deteriorated, has today been admitted to the Services Hospital. Doctors have advised him complete rest for three months. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Jan 83 p 8]

IBRD FINANCING REFUGEE PROJECTS--Islamabad, Jan 2--World Bank is likely to finance income-generating and training projects for the Afghan refugees, it was learnt here. UNHCR is making efforts to examine the potential for such projects which will lessen the refugee's dependence on aid from the government and the international community. Following an approach by UNHCR,



the World Bank has agreed to co-operate with the government of Pakistan and UNHCR in the identification and subsequent implementation of income-generating projects. After the visits of two positive identification missions of the World Bank, the government is now preparing projects which, after appraisal by the Bank and subject to availability of funds, are expected to commence mid 1983.--PPI [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Jan 83 p 3]

Z.A. BHUTTO'S ANNIVERSARY--Hyderabad, Jan 5--The 55th anniversary of late Mr Z.A. Bhutto was observed at some places by his followers in Hyderabad today. The President of the defunct PPP, Hyderabad city, Syed Ali Nawaz Shah, is reported to have cut the anniversary cakes at District Bar Room and at the residences of Mr Usman Kenedy and Mr Ellahi Bux Qaimkhani at Hiragad and Qaim Nagar Paratabad respectively. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 6 Jan 83 p 14]

TWO CONVICTED FOR OBJECTIONABLE POSTERS--Hyderabad, Jan 6--The Summary Military Court No 14 has sentenced two persons for pasting objectionable posters against Government and Martial Law authorities. The Divisional Martial Law authorities said that Hondraj s/o Basar Mal, resident of Goth Wali Muhammad (Taluka Umerkot) has been awarded one-year RI and ten lashes, while Wazir Ali Malkani s/o Ali Muhammad, resident of Goth Wali Muhammad Jamadar (Taluka Mirpurkhas) will undergo three months' RI. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 7]

ELECTIONS 'NO ANSWER'--Mr Anis Hashmi, President of Sind Committee of the Pakistan Socialist Party, in a Press statement said yesterday that election was not the answer to the problems of the country. The basic problems of the country were the influence of imperialism on the fiscal, economic, internal and external policies of our country, (ii) need for radical land reforms, and (iii) need for radical land reforms, and (iii) the question of social benefits to the people. The people should be the real beneficiaries of the fruits of independence, the statement said and urged "our people" to understand the basic problems and "earnestly work for the eradication of these evils." He also asked "these feudal ridden political parties to come out with their social programmes and their stand towards Imperialism." [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 7 Jan 83 p 18]

AMBASSADOR TO CAIRO--Cairo, Jan 11--Pakistan will again send an Ambassador to Cairo after the post had remained vacant for about two years, the Foreign Ministry confirmed here today. Egyptian Press reports said today that the new head of Pakistan's diplomatic representation would be the Pakistani Additional Foreign Secretary, Mr Zafarul Islam, who would arrive here at the end of this month. Mr Islam, the reports said, spoke Arabic and had previously held the post of Ambassador in Syria, Jordan, Tunisia and Nigeria from 1976 to 1980. He occupied a top position in the Organisation of Islamic Conference secretariat.--DPA [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 9]

MINIMUM SALARY BEING CONSIDERED--Lahore, Jan 11--The Federal Government is seriously considering a formula to determine minimum salary for low and middle-income group of workers in the public and private institutions. Official sources informed 'DAWN' here on Tuesday that keeping in view the increase in prices of essential commodities due to various economic factors, a team of experts was presently engaged in formulating a procedure under which minimum salary could be fixed for a family of four to five persons. In this connection suggestions from the International Labour Organisation, (ILO), representatives of workers and employers were also being studied. At present the Ministry of Labour is trying to chalk out a tentative formula which at later stage would be presented to the Federal Cabinet. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 9]

INDEPENDENT PLANNING BODY CRITICIZED--Lahore, Jan 11--A former Punjab Provincial Minister, Mr A.H. Kardar, has termed as unrealistic the outlines of the Independent Planning Commission of Pakistan (IPCP) set up Dr Mubashir Hasan. Mr Kardar, in a Press statement issued here today alleged that the IPCP contained a highly conflicting approach and obvious contradictions. He alleged that Dr Mubashir Hasan gave proposals to obtain loans for his plan with a sense of non-fulfilment of slogans raised during the 1969-70 election campaign of the defunct PPP. He said it would have been better that Dr Mubashir should have conceived a national Plan based on self-reliance and denial of non-essential commodities. As regards Dr Hasan's four-point generalities in the proposed plan of the IPCP he said a number of more points could also be included in it. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 12]

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